

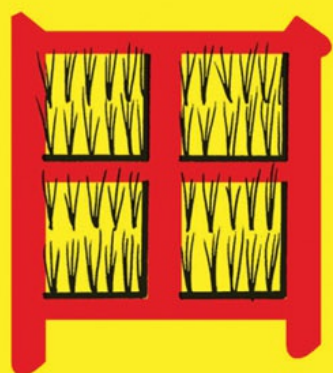


Mastering Japanese Kanji

Volume 1

絵で見る漢字

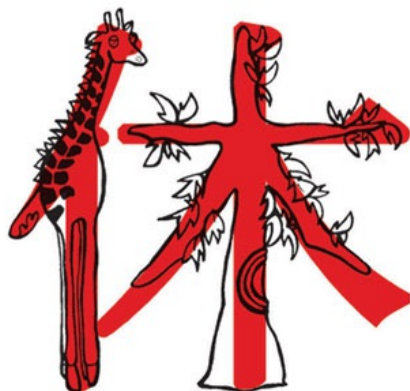
*The Innovative Visual
Method for Learning
Japanese Characters*



ta — rice paddy



su(ki) — to like



yasu(mu) — to rest



ame — rain

Recognize and retain the meanings and readings of the kanji in record time!

- Teaches 200 of the most common kanji
- Imaginative visuals and narratives that make it easy to remember each character
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Glen Nolan Grant

Mastering Japanese Kanji

*The Innovative Visual Method for
Learning Japanese Characters*

Volume 1

Mastering Japanese Kanji

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Learning Japanese Characters*

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By Glen Nolan Grant

Illustrations by Ya-Wei Lin

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How to Download the Bonus Material of this Book.

1. You must have an internet connection.
2. Click the link below or copy paste the URL to your web browser.

<http://www.tuttlepublishing.com/mastering-japanese-kanji-v1-downloadable-cd-content>

For support email us at info@tuttlepublishing.com.

INTRODUCTION

This book can help you greatly reduce the time and effort involved in learning to read Japanese. It does so by introducing a method that is both effective and easy to use in memorizing the meanings and pronunciations of *kanji*, the array of characters that are used in the language to symbolize everything from abstract ideas to concrete nouns.

Learning any of the kanji, you will find, is a two-step process, requiring that you remember both the *visual* aspect of a character (so you can recognize it when you see it) and the *aural* aspect (so you will know how to say and, thus, read it). The method presented here will show you how to tackle both of these aspects from the outset, and by so doing enable you to immediately get down to the practical (and fun!) business of recognizing and reading kanji on everything from street signs to newspapers. By the time you finish this book, in fact, you will be able to boast of a Japanese vocabulary numbering in the thousands of words.

Kanji and the Japanese Writing System

Kanji (literally, “Chinese characters”) arrived in Japan along with Buddhism and other aspects of Chinese culture approximately 1,500 years ago. As with many concepts introduced into the country from abroad, this writing system was gradually shaped and modified over the centuries to better suit the Japanese themselves. Kanji today comprise one part of written Japanese, being used alongside a pair of much simpler phonetic syllabaries, *katakana* and *hiragana*. Katakana are generally employed to denote foreign words, as well as various technical and scientific terms. Hiragana, on the other hand, have a largely grammatical function, and are used for everything from verb endings to particles. As you can see from the examples below, katakana and hiragana are visually similar; they never contain more than four strokes. Kanji, however, are more varied; they can have anywhere from one to more

than 20 strokes.

Hirigana:	か	き	く	け	こ
Katakana:	カ	キ	ク	ケ	コ
Kanji:	東	曜	秋	語	意

Written Japanese is thus a mixture of three elements, and a single sentence can have all three present, as in the following example.

アフリカで水牛とキリンを見ました。

I saw a water buffalo and a giraffe in Africa.

Number and Frequency of Kanji

As katakana and hiragana can be learned quickly (there are only around fifty of each), this book will focus exclusively on mastering kanji. It's worth keeping in mind that the Japanese Ministry of Education has stipulated that high school students in Japan are expected to learn 1,945 characters (the so-called “general-use” kanji) by the time they graduate. Magazines and newspapers can employ upwards of 3,000 kanji, although these “extra” characters are often accompanied by hiragana showing how they are to be pronounced; without this, most Japanese would often be unsure of both the meaning of the character in question and its pronunciation.

Despite there being so many kanji, it is important to understand that some are used far more frequently than others. The 500 most common, for example, make up approximately 80% of the kanji you will see. The 1,000 most common bring this figure to over 90%. Learning the 200 kanji presented in this volume, therefore, will offer great immediate benefit.

The Composition of Kanji

In general, kanji dictionaries divide characters into groups that share a common part (call a “radical”). As you can see below, the kanji in the first row all share the same left-hand radical 亻. The kanji in the second row share the same top 宀, while the radical in the third row (久) appears in various

positions.

休
安
冬

化
家
夏

体
字
愛

At times this book will break kanji apart into fragments smaller than radicals. To keep things simple, all radicals and parts that make up a kanji – *but are not themselves kanji* – are called components, and will always be presented in a separate text box immediately before the first character in which they appear.

Stroke Order

Stroke order refers to the sequence of lines that are used to correctly write out a kanji. Knowing this order is important for several reasons. First, it will help train you to quickly count the number of strokes in a character, and thus make it easier to locate unfamiliar kanji (or those for which pronunciations may have been forgotten) in a kanji dictionary. It will also aid you in breaking down characters visually, making it easier to see the components that will help you recall a kanji's meaning. Stroke order diagrams accompany each entry in this book. The [accompanying material](#), in addition, provides an animated graphic showing each character being written in its proper order.

An Overview of *On-yomi* and *Kun-yomi*

On-yomi and **kun-yomi** are the two main branches of pronunciation (or “readings”, as they are called) that are present in modern day Japanese. **On-yomi** are sometimes called the “Chinese readings” of the kanji, as these were the initial pronunciations attached to the characters when they first arrived from China. The **kun-yomi**, on the other hand, developed from within Japan, and are thus referred to as “Japanese readings”. This, along with the fact that different **on-yomi** for the same character sometimes arrived from China centuries later, helps explain how a single kanji in Japanese can sometimes

have more than one of each type of reading.

Clearly, memorizing these various pronunciations and knowing when to use them are two of the most difficult tasks in learning Japanese. There are, however, reasons to be optimistic. Over 60% of the kanji have only a single **on-yomi**, or one **on-yomi** and one **kun-yomi**. In addition, when multiple **on-** or **kun-yomi** are present, there is usually only one dominant reading for each. This book will help you determine the most important pronunciations to be learned by classifying every reading as either “common” or “less common”. Those less common do not merit being learned at this stage of your language study; they are presented only for future reference.

An interesting aspect of Japanese (and an unlucky one for us in this volume!) is that the most complex kanji in terms of pronunciation are often amongst the most simple to write. Do not get discouraged, therefore, when thorny characters such as “person” (Entry 2), “one” (Entry 3), “sun” (Entry 6), and “large” (Entry 17) all show up in the first chapter, as these can be classified with the most difficult in the language. Be patient with such characters, and take comfort in knowing that by the time you finish this book you will have dealt with the trickiest entries in the entire range of the general-use kanji.

Some Rules for Using *On-yomi* and *Kun-yomi*

There are some useful ground rules that you should keep in mind when learning to read single kanji and compounds (words formed from several kanji put together):

1. Kanji in most compounds are usually read with their **on-yomi**. Note, incidentally, that when the pronunciations for **on-yomi** are given, these are conventionally written in katakana, and indicated by uppercase letters in English.

KANJI	PRONUNCIATION	MEANING
火山	KA·ZAN カ・ザン	<i>volcano</i>
家具	KA·GU カ・グ	<i>furniture</i>

弓道	KYŪ·DŌ キュウ・ドウ	(Japanese) <i>archery</i>
同時	DŌ·JI ドウ・ジ	<i>simultaneous</i>

2. Compounds only rarely mix **on-yomi** and **kun-yomi**. Note here that **kun-yomi** are conventionally written in hiragana, and indicated by lowercase letters in English.

KANJI	PRONUNCIATION	MEANING
中古車	CHŪ·KO·SHA チュウ・コ・シャ	<i>used car</i>
十二月	JŪ·NI·GATSU ジュウ・ニ・ガツ	<i>December</i>
小春	ko·haru こ・はる	<i>Indian summer</i>
花見	hana·mi はな・み	<i>cherry blossom viewing</i>

3. Kanji in compounds that are accompanied by hiragana are almost always read with their **kun-yomi**.

KANJI (+ HIRIGANA)	PRONUNCIATION	MEANING
切り下げる	ki·ri sa·geru き・り さ・げる	<i>to devalue</i>
売り家	u·ri ie う・り いえ	<i>“House for sale”</i>
名高い	na daka·i な だか・い	<i>renowned</i>
立ち止まる	ta·chi do·maru た・ち ど・まる	<i>to stand still</i>

4. Kanji that appear alone (that is, they are not part of a compound in a sentence) are usually read with their **kunyomi**.

KANJI (+ HIRIGANA)	PRONUNCIATION	MEANING
小さい	chii·sai ちい.さい	<i>small</i>
犬	inu いぬ	<i>dog</i>
東	higashi ひがし	<i>east</i>
来る	ku·ru く.る	<i>to come</i>

You may have noticed words such as “usually” and “almost always” in the above rules. One thing you will soon learn about kanji is that they seem to take delight in turning up exceptions to every rule. The best thing to do is make use of these exceptions as a means to memorize the words in which they appear. Put another way, you will be much further ahead if you learn to love headstrong words that live by their own rules!

Voiced and Unvoiced Sounds

An important consideration in learning to read Japanese is understanding the difference between voiced and unvoiced consonant sounds. Think of this difference by saying aloud the English words “brink” and “bring”; the “k” of “brink” is unvoiced, while the “g” of “bring” is voiced (you need to vibrate your vocal cords to say it). This is the same distinction, for example, between the Japanese sounds “**ka**” and “**ga**” (カ and ガ). What you need to know is that certain kanji can turn from being unvoiced to voiced, depending on where they appear in a compound. The first entry under Table 1 above provides an example: the unvoiced **on-yomi** SAN (サン) changes to the voiced **ZAN** (ザン) in the first sample word shown. Although there are an assortment of rules that explain when such changes take place, it is best to

develop a “feel” for when these phonetic transformations might occur. Once this happens, your ear will develop to the point where certain compounds begin sounding more natural with one of their kanji voiced.

Irregular Readings

It sometimes occurs in Japanese that a kanji compound has an irregular reading. Known as *jukujikun*, such readings have no relation to the normal **on-** or **kun-yomi** of their component kanji. Rather, these irregular readings are assigned to entire compounds rather than to their component kanji.

You will encounter the first of these in Entry 2. In all three such irregular readings shown there, the reading of the kanji “人” is completely different from what we would expect it to be normally. In a sense, this is much like the problem foreigners face when learning English; the pronunciation of the word “cough”, for example, has little connection with the normal sound of the letters from which it is made. Fortunately there are not many irregular readings to be learned (less than thirty appear in this book), but as they are all in common use it is best to come to grips with them the moment they are encountered, by memorizing them as individual words. All irregular readings in this book will be presented separately from the “Common words and compounds” section, to make it clear that these are some truly oddball pronunciations.

A Method for Memorizing the Visual and Aural Aspects of Kanji

As we have seen, kanji are typically more visually complex than hiragana and katakana. Because of this, a good way to simplify the task of committing kanji to memory is to look at their constituent parts. We will do just that, breaking the characters down piece-by-piece and assigning meanings to these components based exclusively on *how they look*. When these various components then join together to build kanji, we will make use of short stories featuring the pieces as “actors”, accompanied by drawings to help solidify the appearance of the characters in a unique way. This part of our memorization approach, therefore, will focus exclusively on the visual aspect of each kanji.

For the aural side of the equation, we need to take one other difference between the **on-** and **kun-yomi** into account when devising our memorization strategy: there are far fewer **on-yomi** to learn than **kun-yomi**. This is because **on-yomi** are not often complete words on their own – it helps to think of them as short “blocks” of sound that in most cases form words only when they are strung together. (It is worth keeping in mind, though, that the kanji for numbers are a notable exception to this). Given that roughly 300 **on-yomi** suffice to cover the entire range of Japan’s 1,945 general-use characters, a single reading can be attached to many different kanji. **SHŌ** (シ ョ ウ), for example, is an **on-yomi** for more than 60 characters. We will be taking advantage of this aspect of Japanese to cut down on the work involved in memorizing these readings.

Our basic plan for committing both the **on-yomi** and **kun-yomi** to memory will be to come up with English keywords that approximate their sounds as closely as possible, and to use these in sentences that also contain a word encompassing the general meaning of the character.

As an example, the kanji for “two” has an **on-yomi** of **NI** (ニ), and a **kun-yomi** of **futa** (ふた). If we choose the word “knee” to suggest **NI**, and the phrase “**who tans**” for **futa**, a possible sentence might be the following: “**TWO** knees? **Who tans** only those?”. This second side to our approach, therefore, will focus exclusively on the aural aspect of a kanji.

A useful shortcut will involve using the same **on-yomi** keyword every time a kanji having that reading appears (recall that many kanji can share the same **on-yomi**). In the preceding example, therefore, the word “knee” will be used each time a kanji with the **on-yomi** “**NI**” crops up, and will simply be combined with the different **kun-yomi** and meaning of the new kanji. A major advantage of this approach is that it will make easily confused **on-yomi** such as **HŌ** (ホ ウ) and **HO** (ホ) absolutely distinctive in your mind, as you will have assigned different keywords to each of these. Given their importance (they will need to be used over and over again with different kanji), the creation of **on-yomi** keywords will be left up to you once a few examples have been provided at the beginning of Chapter 1 – your sentences will be more memorable if these words have a distinct personal meaning for you. The **On-Yomi Keyword Table** at the end of the book will help you manage your list of these keywords as it grows, and is designed to be filled in

as you encounter each **on-yomi** in the pages ahead. By keeping all these readings in one place, you can refer to them quickly when needed.

The **kun-yomi**, on the other hand, are far greater in number, and therefore best learned individually. Fortunately, they tend to be more distinctive than the **on-yomi**, and are, as a result, often easier to remember once a unique keyword phrase has been created. In order to help with the workload in this respect, suggestions for **kun-yomi** keywords are provided with each kanji throughout the book. But you should not hesitate to use an idea of your own should one spring immediately to mind.

Presentation of the Entries In This Book

Each entry will offer one kanji along with a word embracing its broadest possible meaning, followed by a grid showing its stroke order. Next, you'll see a list of the components making up the character, together with reference numbers indicating the points at which these have been introduced earlier in the book. After a short background section describes the various shades of meaning the character conveys, a story (when required) and illustration are presented to help you memorize the kanji visually. A pronunciation section then lists the most common **on-** and **kun-yomi** for the character followed by readings that you will encounter less frequently. Entries conclude with a section showing the character's use in a number of common Japanese words, and a sample sentence in which the kanji is featured. Where space permits, a table for writing practice is also included.

There is an important point to keep in mind with respect to the "Common words and compounds" table in each entry: any word or compound consisting of kanji you have already learned will be shown in **bold face** and in a larger font than the other kanji in the table. This will allow you to focus on reviewing those words you have previously encountered. One useful way to review would involve covering up the right-hand columns in the table with your hand or a piece of paper, then drawing it back to reveal the individual kanji meanings, pronunciation, and the overall meaning of the word in question.

In order to make your task a bit more manageable – you'll be mastering 200 of the most important kanji in Japanese, after all! – the book is divided into chapters of 20 entries each. This will allow you to periodically review a

reasonable number of characters before proceeding onward. Short review sections at the end of each chapter will help you check your learning, along with cumulative exercises following Chapters 5 and 10. Use these reviews to see exactly how far you've come in your mastery of the kanji, and to find out which entries to return to for more practice, if you need it. You'll find answer keys, along with indices listing kanji by stroke count, **on-yomi**, **kun-yomi**, and English meaning, at the end of the book. Remember that all of the **on-yomi** are presented in katakana and employ upper-case Roman letters for romaji. The **kun-yomi** are written with hiragana, and have lower-case Roman letters for romaji.

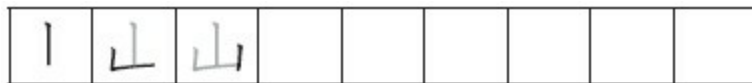
To add an audio aspect to your kanji learning, the [accompanying material](#) contains pronunciations for all the **on-** and **kun-yomi** found in this book, as well as for the sample sentences and common words in each entry; it will be particularly useful in helping you to select your **on-yomi** keywords. An animated graphic is also provided to show you how each kanji is written using the proper stroke order.

Learning to read kanji is fascinating; the characters, so different from those used in our own writing system, have a mysterious quality that attracts everyone who studies Japanese. As you progress through this book and see how kanji are easily able to present even the most complex ideas, it is worth keeping in mind that you are not only setting out to learn a new means of written communication, but another way of conceptualizing the world around you. It's an exciting task, and by using the present book as your guide you will find this process to be not only interesting, but fun. So let's jump right in – and start mastering Japanese kanji!

CHAPTER 1 (KANJI 1-20)

KANJI 1

山 MOUNTAIN



MEANING

Mountain. Our first kanji is one of those wonderful characters whose meaning is obvious at a glance. As kanji such as these are best learned from a simple picture, there is no need for an accompanying story. A number of characters in the book will fall into this category.



COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Common **ON** reading: **SAN** (サン)

Common **kun** reading: **yama** (やま)

This kanji has only one **on-yomi** and one **kun-yomi** (the pronunciation of which – together with all others in this book – can be heard on the [accompanying material](#)). To suggest these sounds, let's use the word

“**SANDWICH**” for **SAN**, and “**yam attack**” for **yama**. As “sandwich” will now be a permanent keyword for all kanji sharing the reading **SAN**, turn to the **on-yomi** table in the back of the book and write “Sandwich” in the space next to **SAN**. Remember that only **on-yomi** (not **kun-yomi**) should be entered in the table.

We now need to link the *meaning* of the kanji to its *sounds* by using the words “mountain”, “sandwich”, and “yam attack” in a sentence. Let’s try this: “On the **Mountain** I had a **yam attack**, so I ate a **SANDWICH**”. For future review, write this sentence in the box below.

Now for some common words that make use of this kanji. There’s no need to worry for the moment about being unable to recognize the other characters, as they will all be learned over the course of the book; at this stage, try to see how the meanings of individual kanji combine to form more complex words (look especially at the fourth example below). This is a useful skill, as it will help foster an intuitive feel for the meanings of unfamiliar compounds that you encounter in the future. It is also one of the most rewarding aspects of learning to read the language. Understanding the logic that went into the formation of a compound not only makes it easier to remember, but offers fascinating insight into the minds of the people who devised it hundreds – if not thousands – of years earlier.

Remember that the uppercase letters and *katakana* here indicate **on-yomi**, with lowercase letters and *hiragana* indicating **kun-yomi**. Recall as well from the introduction that this is our first instance of a character whose unvoiced reading can sometimes become voiced (in examples 3 - 4, where the **on-yomi** changes from **SAN** to **ZAN**). Note how the first entry below is presented in **bold face** — indicating that this is a word you now know.

COMMON WORDS AND COMPOUNDS		
山	<i>mountain</i>	yama やま
一山	one + mountain	hito·yama

	= <i>a pile of something</i>	ひと・やま
高山	tall + mountain = <i>alpine</i>	KŌ・ZAN コウ・ザン
火山	fire + mountain = <i>volcano</i>	KA・ZAN カ・ザン
山村	mountain + village = <i>mountain village</i>	SAN・SON サン・ソン

Each entry concludes with a sample sentence featuring the character under discussion; any unfamiliar kanji in these sentences are introduced later in the book.

SAMPLE SENTENCE

山 に 木 が ありません。

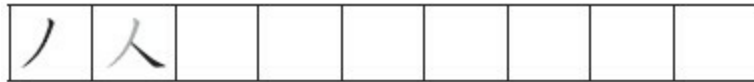
yama ni ki ga arimasen.

mountain tree are not

= *There are no trees on the mountain.*

KANJI 2

人 PERSON



MEANING

Person/Human being. Another visually simple kanji for which no story is required. When appearing at the end of country names, this kanji denotes an individual's nationality.



COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Common **ON** reading: **JIN** (ジン); **NIN** (ニン)

Common **kun** reading: **hito** (ひと)

As mentioned in the introduction, 人 is a character that challenges every student of Japanese. As there are few patterns to its distribution of readings, words containing it often need to be memorized individually. **JIN**, however, tends to signify that a person belongs to a certain subgroup of humanity, while **NIN** indicates a person engaged in an activity specified by the kanji preceding it. Look for **JIN** in the first position and at the end of words signifying countries, and be aware that the **kun-yomi** is always voiced (changes from **hito** to **bito**) when it appears outside of the first position, as it

does in the sixth compound below.

We now need our keywords and sentence for the three readings. For **JIN** and **NIN** let's choose "**JEANS**" and "**NINCOMPOOP**". As you did in the previous entry for 山, turn to the **on-yomi** table at the end of the book, but this time write "Jeans" in the space next to **JIN** and "Nincompoop" in the space next to **NIN**. For the **kun-yomi** "**hito**" we'll use "**heat open**". We can now throw everything together into the sentence "That **Person** is a **NINcompoop** because they **heat open** their **JEANS**". Remember to write this sentence in the box below so that you can review it later.

Here are our initial encounters with irregular readings. Note that the irregular reading in the first two examples belongs to 人; as you will learn in the next two entries, "一" and "二" are read with their normal **kun-yomi**. In the final compound, both readings are irregular. All three of these words are best thought of as special cases, and memorized individually.

IRREGULAR READINGS		
一人	one + person = <i>one person</i>	hito·ri ひと・り
二人	two + person = <i>two people</i>	futa·ri ふた・り
大人	large + person = <i>adult</i>	otona おとな

COMMON WORDS AND COMPOUNDS		
人	<i>person</i>	hito ひと
白人	white + person = <i>caucasian</i>	HAKU·JIN ハク・ジン

人口	person + mouth = <i>population</i>	JIN·KŌ ジン・コウ
三人	three + person = <i>three people</i>	SAN·NIN サン・ニン
四人	four + person = <i>four people</i>	yo·NIN よ・ニン
村人	village + person = <i>villager</i>	mura·bito むら・びと
外国人	outside + country + person = <i>foreigner</i>	GAI·KOKU·JIN ガイ・コク・ジン

SAMPLE SENTENCE

あの 人 の 手 は 小さい です。

ano hito no te wa chii·sai desu.

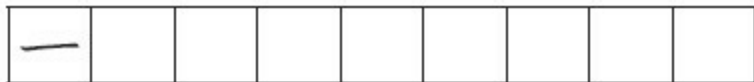
that person hand small

= *That person's hands are small.*

WRITING PRACTICE					

KANJI 3

一 ONE



MEANING

One. It's hard to find an easier kanji to remember than this!

REMEMBERING THIS KANJI

Despite its simplicity, we need to complicate things a little in order to make use of this character in other kanji. As a result, this character will mean the “top of a hamburger bun” when appearing over all other parts of another character, and the “bottom of a hamburger bun” when it shows up beneath them. But what of a horizontal line found in the middle of a character? Well, that would be the patty (which vegetarians may wish to picture being made of tofu).

“In the beginning, there was ONE shapeless... bun.”



COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Common **ON** readings: **ICHI** (イチ); **ITSU** (イツ)

Common **kun** reading: **hito** (ひと)

Though this is the simplest kanji in a visual sense, knowing when to use which of its readings can be tricky. Now that we have some understanding of the difference between voiced and unvoiced consonant sounds, however, it's much easier for us to make sense of it all. Basically, whenever this kanji

appears as the first character in a compound it is almost always read with its **on-yomi**, and its pronunciation of **ICHI** or **ITSU** will depend on whether the initial sound of the following kanji is voiced or voiceless (look closely at the sixth compound of the common words section below to see how the sound of **ITSU** “doubles up” with the sound of the next kanji in this situation). Don’t worry if this sounds complicated for now; rest assured it will soon become intuitive as compounds begin sounding more natural with one reading or the other.

We now need a sentence with all three common readings together with the word “one”. To suggest the sounds **ICHI** and **ITSU**, let’s use “**EACH EEL**” and “**EAT SOUP**”. Write these in their respective places in the **on-yomi** table at the back of the book. For the **kun-yomi** “**hito**”, we’ll use “**he told**”. Let’s choose the following sentence: “One,” **he told** us, “**EACH EEL** must **EAT SOUP**.” As before, write this sentence in the box below for future reference.

LESS COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Less common **ON** reading: none

Less common **kun** reading: none

Here is another irregular reading; the word “day” appears in brackets to make the logic behind the compound clearer by indicating a secondary meaning of 日 (Entry 6).

IRREGULAR READING		
一 日	one + sun (day) = <i>first day of the month</i>	tsuitachi ついたち

Note that the same compound is shown below with a different pronunciation and meaning. Context will determine which is the appropriate reading to apply; when 一 日 is seen at the top of a newspaper page, for example, it clearly refers to the first day of the month and would thus be read

“tsuitachi” (つ いたち).

COMMON WORDS AND COMPOUNDS		
一	<i>one</i>	ICHI イチ
一つ	<i>one (general counter)</i>	hito•tsu ひと・つ
一日	one + sun (day) = <i>one day</i>	ICHI•NICH イチ・ニチ
一月	one + moon (month) = <i>January</i>	ICHI•GATSU イチ・ガツ
同一	same + one = <i>identical</i>	DŌ•ITSU ドウ・イツ
一回	one + rotate = <i>once</i>	IK•KAI イツ・カイ
一時	one + time = <i>one o'clock</i>	ICHI•JI イチ・ジ

SAMPLE SENTENCE

一時 に 会いましょう。

ICHI•JI ni a•imashō.

One o'clock let's meet

= *Let's meet at one o'clock.*

KANJI 4

二 TWO

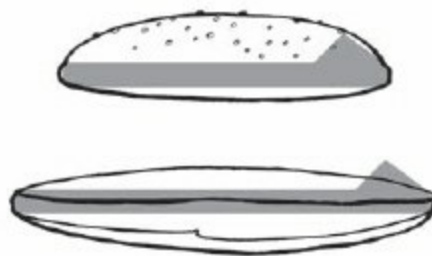
一	二							
BUILDING THIS KANJI								
one 一(3) + one 一(3) = 二								

MEANING

All things to do with two, including the ideas of “double” and “bi-”, etc. Note that the top line is drawn slightly shorter.

REMEMBERING THIS KANJI

On day TWO, things began to emerge in the form of a hamburger-like object.



COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Common **ON** reading: NI (ニ)

Common **kun** reading: futa (ふた)

After that bruising encounter with the pronunciation of 一, things become much simpler with 二, although as you can see below there are also three irregular readings that need to be learned with this character. To suggest our **on-yomi**, let's use “**KNEE**”, and for our **kun-yomi**, “**who tans**”. After

entering KNEE in your **on-yomi** table, write the following sentence in the box below: “Two **KNEES**? Who **tans** only those?”

LESS COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Less common **ON** reading: none

Less common **kun** reading: none

Here are three irregular readings that will be frequently encountered. The final kanji in the third example (歳), incidentally, is not covered in this book; such characters will be included only when they form common words in which the pronunciation of the character we are considering has an irregular reading. Irregular readings containing these kanji will be identified with an asterisk (*).

IRREGULAR READINGS		
二日	two + sun (day) = <i>second day of the month</i>	futsuka ふつか
二十日	two + ten + sun (day) = <i>twentieth day of the month</i>	hatsuka はつか
二十歳*	two + ten + annual = <i>twenty years old</i>	hatachi はたち

COMMON WORDS AND COMPOUNDS		
二	<i>two</i>	NI 二
二つ	<i>two (general counter)</i>	futa•tsu ふた•つ
二月	two + moon (month) = <i>February</i>	NI•GATSU ニ•ガツ

二十	two + ten = <i>twenty</i>	NI·JŪ ニ・ジュウ
二百	two + hundred = <i>two hundred</i>	NI·HYAKU ニ・ヒャク
二時	two + time = <i>two o'clock</i>	NI·JI ニ・ジ
二週間	two + week + interval = <i>two weeks</i>	NI·SHŪ·KAN ニ・シュウ・カン

SAMPLE SENTENCE

二月 の オーストラリア は 美しい。

NI·GATSU no ōsutoraria wa utsuku·shii.

February Australia beautiful

= *Australia is beautiful in February.*

WRITING PRACTICE

KANJI 5

三 THREE

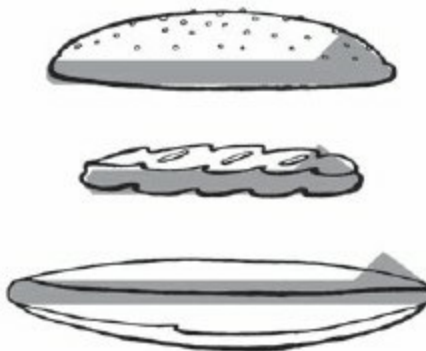
一	二	三						
BUILDING THIS KANJI one 一(3) + one 一(3) + one 一(3) = 三								

MEANING

Three/Triple/Tri-, etc.

REMEMBERING THIS KANJI

On day **THREE**, the full hamburger - in all its glory - came into being.



COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Common **ON** reading: **SAN** (サン)

Common **kun** reading: none

It's now time to begin making use of our key shortcut for learning the **on-yomi**. As we have already created a keyword for **SAN** (recall the **on-yomi** for “山” in Entry 1), we will now use that same word here. Let's keep things simple and have “**Three SANDWICHES**” as our phrase. As always, write

this in the box below.

LESS COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Less common **ON** reading: none

Less common **kun** readings: **mi-** (みつ); **mi** (み)

Here we have our first examples of some less common readings, in this case the two **kun-yomi** “**mi-**” and “**mi**”. Keep in mind that “less common” does not equate with “unimportant,” as to read Japanese fluently these pronunciations will all have

to be learned in time. At this stage, however, it is far more useful to solidify the common readings in your memory and take up the others when they are encountered in the future. When you reach that stage, the appropriate phrase for the respective kanji (e.g. “Three SANDWICHES”) can simply be extended to accommodate additional mnemonic words.

In the present example, the first **kun-yomi** appears in only two words, and always “doubles up” in the same way “**ITSU**” (the **on-yomi** for “一”) does when preceding voiceless consonant sounds (this is indicated by the short dash after mi). In a sense, this reading is unusual enough to merit the words being learned as if they were irregular readings: 三日 [**mik·ka** (みつ・か)] “the third day of the month”, and 三つ [**mit·tsu** (みつ・つ)] the general counter for “three”. The second less common reading is more typical of the pronunciations you will find in this section. The words in which it occurs are obscure; it is enough to be aware that such less common readings exist for some of the kanji in this book, but that you don’t need to worry about them for now.

COMMON WORDS AND COMPOUNDS		
三	<i>three</i>	SAN サン
三人	three + person	SAN·NIN

	= <i>three people</i>	サン・ニン
三月	three + moon (month) = <i>March</i>	SAN·GATSU サン・ガツ
三時	three + time = <i>three o'clock</i>	SAN·JI サン・ジ
三十	three + ten = <i>thirty</i>	SAN·JŪ サン・ジュウ
三千	three + thousand = <i>three thousand</i>	SAN·ZEN サン・ゼン

SAMPLE SENTENCE

三人 が 早く 来ました。

SAN·NIN ga haya·ku ki·mashita.

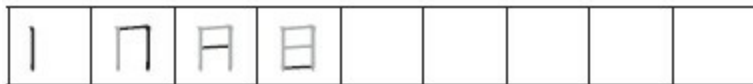
Three people early came.

= *Three people came early.*

WRITING PRACTICE

KANJI 6

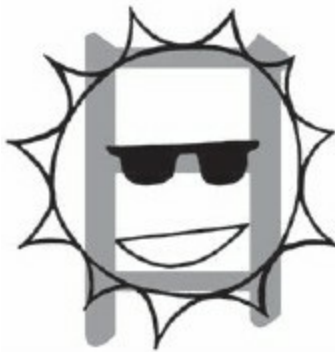
日 SUN



MEANING

This is a kanji with two primary meanings that are clearly related: “sun” and “day”. The character will become most familiar to you through its use in the days of the week, and as the initial kanji in the compound for Japan.

This is another character, incidentally, for which we do not need to make use of a story.



COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Common **ON** readings: **NICHI** (ニチ); **JITSU** (ジツ)

Common **kun** reading: **hi** (ひ)

日 is another example of a simple-looking kanji that can cause a bit of trouble when it comes to pronunciation. As all three of these readings occur frequently, the best approach is to look for patterns: **NICHI** will be encountered overwhelmingly in the first position (**hi** makes only a few appearances), **JITSU** in the second, and **hi** in the third – where it becomes voiced and pronounced **bi** (ひ). A perfect example of this odd behavior can

be seen in the word Sunday, the final example below. Note also that **NICHI** acts like **ITSU** (from 一) by doubling up any unvoiced consonant sounds that follow it, as can be seen in the more formal rendering of the pronunciation for “Japan”, **NIP•PON** (ニッ・ポ^ン), from which the more common **NI•HON** (ニ・ホ^ン) has been derived.

At this point we will now start building our own sentences to memorize pronunciations. First, think of a word to approximate the **on-yomi NICHI** (a German philosopher, perhaps?) and the **on-yomi JITSU** (a martial art, maybe?). Whichever words you decide to use, don’t forget to write them in the **on-yomi** table at the back of the book. When it comes to the **kun-yomi**, suggestions will be provided for each one ahead (they can be tough to dream up at times). Don’t hesitate, however, to use your own ideas if another word springs immediately to mind. For the present character, try “**helium**”; use this together with “sun” and your **on-yomi** keywords to create the sentence you will write in the box below.

LESS COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Less common **ON** reading: none

Less common **kun** reading: **ka** (か)

ka is used only to identify the days of the month from 2-10, 14, 17, 20, 24 and 27.

Here are four irregular readings (the most that will appear for any character in this book). You’ve already seen the first.

IRREGULAR READINGS		
一日	one + day = <i>first day of the month</i>	tsuitachi ついたち
昨日*	past + day = <i>yesterday</i>	kinō きのう
	now + day	kyō

今日*	= <i>today</i>	きょう
明日	bright + day = <i>tomorrow</i>	asu あす ashita あした

COMMON WORDS AND COMPOUNDS		
日	<i>sun; day</i>	hi ひ
一日	one + day = <i>one day</i>	ICHI·NICH イチ・ニチ
日本	sun + main = <i>Japan</i>	NI·HON ニ・ホン NIP·PON ニッ・ポン
休日	rest + day = <i>holiday</i>	KYŪ·JITSU キュウ・ジツ
毎日	every + day = <i>daily</i>	MAI·NICH マイ・ニチ
朝日	morning + sun = <i>morning sun</i>	asa·hi あさ・ひ
日曜日	sun + day of the week + day = <i>Sunday</i>	NICHI·YŌ·bi ニチ・ヨウ・び

SAMPLE SENTENCE

毎日 日本語 の 本 を 読みます。

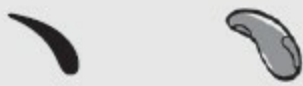
MAI·NICH **NI·HON·GO** no **HON** o yo·*mimasu*.

daily Japanese book read

= *(I) read Japanese books every day.*

COMPONENT 7

JELLY BEAN



Here we have our initial “component”. These will always be introduced directly before the first character in which they appear, and will be set apart in a separate text box to indicate that they are **not** themselves kanji on their own.

This little guy, incidentally, can appear at various places and on various angles in a kanji. It can also show up with not only one friend, as in Entry [60](#), but with two, as in Entry [25](#).

KANJI 7

白 WHITE

'	丿	𠂇	𠂇	𠂇				
BUILDING THIS KANJI Jelly Bean 丿 + Sun 日(6) = 白								

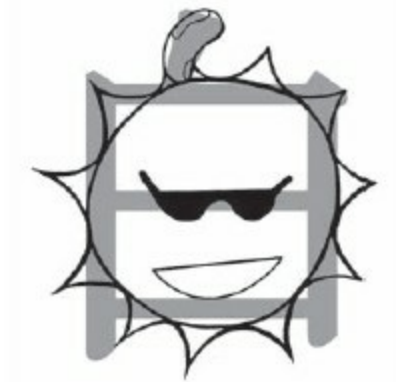
MEANING

White. To the Japanese, this color symbolizes cleanliness and purity (which helps explain the presence of so many white cars in the country!). As a result, the kanji can appear in words with this shade of meaning. The fourth compound is an example.

REMEMBERING THIS KANJI

As this kanji is composed of a separate character and a component, our first story will help you to memorize it:

I think it's safe to say that any **jelly bean**, no matter what color it is, will turn **WHITE** if thrown into the **sun**.



COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Common **ON** reading: **HAKU** (ハク)

Common **kun** reading: **shiro** (しろ)

kun-yomi suggestion: “**she wrote**”

Create your **on-yomi** keyword and enter it in the table at the back of the book. After that, write your sentence to remember the **on-yomi** and **kun-yomi** readings in the box below.

--

LESS COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Less common **ON** reading: **BYAKU** (ビヤク)

Less common **kun** reading: **shira** (しら)

COMMON WORDS AND COMPOUNDS		
白	<i>white (noun)</i>	shiro しろ
白い	<i>white (adjective)</i>	shiro·i

		しろ・い
白人	white + person = <i>caucasian</i>	HAKU·JIN ハク・ジン
明白	bright + white = <i>obvious</i>	MEI·HAKU メイ・ハク
白鳥	white + bird = <i>swan</i>	HAKU·CHŌ ハク・チョウ
白米	white + rice = <i>polished rice</i>	HAKU·MAI ハク・マイ

SAMPLE SENTENCE

この 白い 馬 の 名前は “雪” です。

kono shiro·i uma no na·mae wa “yuki” desu.

this white horse name “snow”

= *This white horse's name is “Snow”.*

WRITING PRACTICE

KANJI 8

口 MOUTH

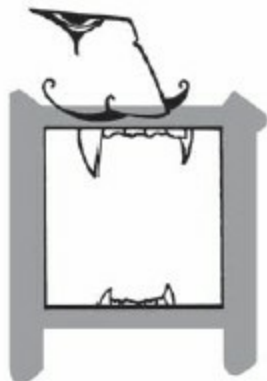


MEANING

Along with the literal meaning of “mouth” and things oral, the kanji also relates to openings in general, from caves and harbors to taps and bottles, for instance.

REMEMBERING THIS KANJI

Has there ever been a more famous **MOUTH** than that of Dracula? We will use this image of a vampire to suggest the word “mouth” in our stories from now on; a few other simple characters will be treated like this as well.



COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Common **ON** reading: **KŌ** (コウ)

Common **kun** reading: **kuchi** (くち)

Note how the **kun-yomi** for this kanji can become voiced when it appears in

the second position, as it does in the fifth example below.

kun-yomi suggestion: “**coochie** coochie coo”

Create your **on-yomi** keyword and enter it in the table at the back of the book. After that, write your sentence to remember the **on-yomi** and **kun-yomi** readings in the box below.

--

LESS COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Less common **ON** reading: **KU** (ク)

Less common **kun** reading: none

COMMON WORDS AND COMPOUNDS		
口	<i>mouth</i>	kuchi くち
人口	person + mouth = <i>population</i>	JIN·KŌ ジン・コウ
早口	early (fast) + mouth = <i>rapid speaking</i>	haya·kuchi はや・くち
口語	mouth + words = <i>colloquial language</i>	KŌ·GO コウ・ゴ
出口	exit + mouth = <i>exit</i>	de·guchi で・ぐち
口先	mouth + precede = <i>lip service</i>	kuchi·saki くち・さき

SAMPLE SENTENCE

この国の人口は少ない。

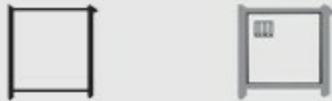
kono kuni no JIN·KŌ wa suku·nai.

<p>this country population few = <i>This country has a small population.</i></p>

[illegible]

COMPONENT 9

PRISON



Though it looks similar to the kanji for “mouth”, this component is larger and always completely surrounds whatever happens to be inside it (like a prison should!); this difference can be seen clearly in Entry 9.

KANJI 9

回 ROTATE

1	2	3	4	5	6			
BUILDING THIS KANJI								
Prison □ + Mouth (vampire) 口(8) = 回								

MEANING

Here we see the difference between the “prison” component and the kanji for “mouth”. Note that the interior part of this kanji is written following the first two strokes of the prison walls, and becomes enclosed by the final stroke at the bottom. All characters of this type have the same pattern.

The general sense of this kanji relates to the ideas of rotation and going around in both space and time. It can also refer to the vicinity of things (neighborhoods and surroundings, etc), and is well-known to Japanese baseball fans as the character used to denote innings.

REMEMBERING THIS KANJI

It was a great relief for everyone when the **vampire** was finally put in **prison**. It soon became obvious, though, that he could not be kept with the

rest of the cons; his offer to “**ROTATE** the blood” of everyone made them suspicious. The end result, as might be expected, was solitary confinement, a bad enough development for the **vampire** that became even worse when he turned into a bat; flying in endless **ROTATIONS** apparently brought on some nasty dizzy spells.



COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Common **ON** reading: **KAI** (カイ)

Common **kun** reading: **mawa** (まわ)

kun-yomi suggestion: “**llama wagon**”

Create your **on-yomi** keyword and enter it in the table at the back of the book. After that, write your sentence to remember the **on-yomi** and **kun-yomi** readings in the box below.

--

LESS COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Less common **ON** reading: none

Less common **kun** reading: none

This is a good place to highlight another important aspect of Japanese: the difference between intransitive (intr) and transitive (tr) verbs. Basically, an intransitive verb does not require an object, whereas a transitive verb does. This can be more easily understood by comparing the first two examples

given below; a person or thing “goes around” on their own (intransitive), but must have an object to “send around” (transitive). As many Japanese verbs come in such intransitive/transitive pairs (the same kanji accompanied by different *hiragana* attached to the end), it is worth noticing how certain endings often indicate the type of verb; for “-ru/-su” pairs such as in the example here, the **-su** verb will always be the transitive.

COMMON WORDS AND COMPOUNDS		
回る (intr)	<i>to go around</i>	mawa·ru まわ・る
回す (tr)	<i>to send around</i>	mawa·su まわ・す
一回	one + rotate = <i>one time</i>	IK·KAI イッ・カイ
二回	two + rotate = <i>twice</i>	NI·KAI ニ・カイ
引き回す	pull + rotate = <i>to pull around</i>	hi·ki mawa·su ひ・き まわ・す
言い回し	say + rotate = <i>(turn of) expression</i>	i·i mawa·shi い・い まわ・し

SAMPLE SENTENCE

私 は 二回 カナダ へ 行きました。

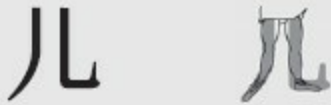
watashi wa NI·KAI Canada e i·kimashita.

I twice Canada went.

= *I went to Canada twice.*

COMPONENT 10

BALLET



We'll be using this component to mean anything to do with the world of ballet.

KANJI 10

 **FOUR**

1	7	7	9	四				
BUILDING THIS KANJI Prison 口 + Ballet 儿 = 四								

MEANING

Four/Quad-, etc. Recall what was noted in Entry 9 regarding the proper stroke order for such characters: the inner part is written after the first two strokes of the prison walls, and enclosed by the final line at the bottom.

REMEMBERING THIS KANJI

Look, I'm not able to say for certain why they threw the **ballet** dancer into **prison**, but I do know one thing: they didn't break him. How could I tell? Well, every afternoon during our exercise period, while the rest of us inmates were either pumping iron or sharpening our shivs, there he'd be, dancing to the **FOUR** corners of the **prison** walls. We all respected him for it, I suppose; not a single con in those **FOUR** corners ever laughed at his tights.



COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Common **ON** reading: **SHI** (シ)

Common **kun** readings: **yon** (よん); **yo** (よ)

Do not choose the word “SHE” for your **on-yomi**, as we will be needing it far more for **kun-yomi**, and a word less abstract (try to think of things, places or people) will always be more memorable and make your sentences easier to create. As you can see from the examples below, this character has a tendency to appear in compounds having a mix of **kun-yomi** and **on-yomi**; this makes it a little trickier than the other kanji for numbers.

kun-yomi suggestions: “lie only”; “yodel”

Create your **on-yomi** keyword and enter it in the table at the back of the book. After that, write your sentence to remember the **on-yomi** and **kun-yomi** readings in the box below.

--

LESS COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Less common **ON** reading: none

Less common **kun** reading: **yo-** (よっ)

This reading is like the less common **kun-yomi** for “three” in that it appears in only two words: 四日 [yok·ka (よっ・か)] “the fourth day of the

month”, and 四つ [yot•tsu (よっ・つ)] the general counter for “four”. These words are best learned as if they were ateji.

COMMON WORDS AND COMPOUNDS		
四	<i>four</i>	SHI シ
四人	four + person = <i>four</i>	yo•NIN よ・ニン
四月	four + moon (month) = <i>April</i>	SHI•GATSU シ・ガツ
四時	four + time = <i>four o'clock</i>	yo•JI よ・ジ
四十	four + ten = <i>forty</i>	yon•JŪ よん・ジュウ
四百	four + hundred = <i>four hundred</i>	yon•HYAKU よん・ヒャク

SAMPLE SENTENCE

四月には雨が多い。

SHI•GATSU ni wa ame ga ō.i.

April rain many.

= *There's a lot of rain in April.*

KANJI 11

月 MOON

月	月	月	月					
---	---	---	---	--	--	--	--	--

MEANING

As with the kanji for “sun”, this character carries two meanings that are clearly related, in this case “moon” and “month”. You will become very familiar with this kanji through its use in the names of the months. This is another visually simple character for which no story is required.



COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Common **ON** readings: **GETSU** (ゲツ); **GATSU** (ガツ)

Common **kun** reading: **tsuki** (つき)

Like **ITSU** (with the kanji “一”) and other readings ending in “-TSU”, the two **on-yomi** double up any unvoiced consonant sounds that follow. You will encounter **GATSU** primarily in the names of the months.

kun-yomi suggestion: “bought **Sioux** keepsakes”

Create your **on-yomi** keyword and enter it in the table at the back of the

book. After that, write your sentence to remember the **on-yomi** and **kun-yomi** readings in the box below.

LESS COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Less common **ON** reading: none

Less common **kun** reading: none

COMMON WORDS AND COMPOUNDS		
月	<i>moon; month</i>	tsuki つき
一月	one + month = <i>January</i>	ICHI·GATSU イチ・ガツ
二月	two + month = <i>February</i>	NI·GATSU ニ・ガツ
三月	three + month = <i>March</i>	SAN·GATSU サン・ガツ
四月	four + month = <i>April</i>	SHI·GATSU シ・ガツ
先月	precede + month = <i>last month</i>	SEN·GETSU セン・ゲツ
月見	moon + see = <i>moon viewing</i>	tsuki·mi つき・み

SAMPLE SENTENCE

九月 に 月見 に 行きました。

KU·GATSU ni tsuki·mi ni i·kimashita.

September moon viewing went

= *I went moon viewing in September.*

WRITING PRACTICE					

KANJI 12

明 BRIGHT

丨	冂	月	日	𠄎	明	明	明	
BUILDING THIS KANJI								
Sun 日 (6) + Moon 月 (11) = 明								

MEANING

Bright/Clear/Light.

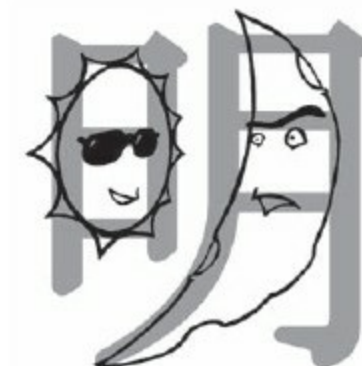
REMEMBERING THIS KANJI

“I’m far more BRIGHT than you are,” said the moon.

“Really?” answered the sun, smiling. “I find that hard to believe. I’m so BRIGHT people have to wear shades; how many people do you notice wearing moonglasses.”

The moon looked confused. “What are you talking about?” he said. “There’s no such thing as moonglasses.”

“You know,” sighed the sun, “you’re even less BRIGHT than I thought.”



COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Common **ON** reading: **MEI** (メイ)

Common **kun** readings: **a** (あ); **aka** (あか)

kun-yomi suggestions: “apt”; “stack a...”.

Write your sentence to remember the readings below.

LESS COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Less common **ON** readings: **MYŌ** (ミヨウ); **MIN** (ミン)

Less common **kun** reading: **aki** (あき)

COMMON WORDS AND COMPOUNDS		
明るい	<i>bright</i>	aka·rui あか・るい
明かり	<i>clearness</i>	a·kari あ・かり
明白	bright + white = <i>obvious</i>	MEI·HAKU メイ・ハク
不明	not + bright = <i>unclear</i>	FU·MEI フ・メイ

SAMPLE SENTENCE

月は明るい です。

tsuki wa aka·rui desu.

moon bright

= *The moon is bright.*

WRITING PRACTICE					

KANJI 13

木 TREE

一	十	才	木					
---	---	---	---	--	--	--	--	--

MEANING

Tree/Wood. No story required.



COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Common **ON** readings: **MOKU** (モク); **BOKU** (ボク)

Common **kun** reading: **ki** (き)

This is another kanji that will require patience to learn. Look for **MOKU** to show up in the first position, however, and **BOKU** in the second. **ki** occurs less often, but appears with equal frequency in the first or second position.

kun-yomi suggestion: “**keel**” (do not use “key”, as this will have far more value as an **on-yomi** keyword).

Create your **on-yomi** keyword and enter it in the table at the back of the book. After that, write your sentence to remember the **on-yomi** and **kun-yomi** readings in the box below.

LESS COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Less common **ON** reading: none

Less common **kun** reading: **ko** (こ)

Here is a common irregular reading you will often see on clothing tags, etc.

IRREGULAR READING		
木綿* も・メン	tree + cotton = <i>cotton (cloth)</i>	mo·MEN

COMMON WORDS AND COMPOUNDS		
木	<i>tree</i>	ki き
木曜日	tree + day of the week + sun (day) = <i>Thursday</i>	MOKU·YŌ·bi モク・ヨウ・び
木星	tree + star = <i>Jupiter (planet)</i>	MOKU·SEI モク・セイ
大木	large + tree = <i>large tree</i>	TAI·BOKU タイ・ボク
土木	earth + tree = <i>civil engineering</i>	DO·BOKU ド・ボク

SAMPLE SENTENCE

あの 高い 木 の 名前 が 分かります か。

ano taka·i ki no na·mae ga wa·karimasu ka.

that tall tree name understand

= *Do you know the name of that tall tree?*

WRITING PRACTICE

[illegible]

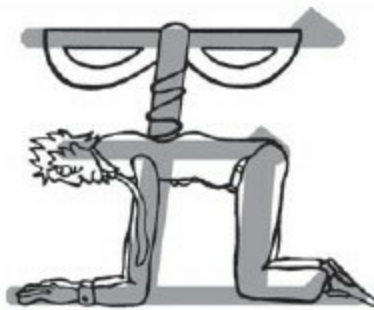
KANJI 14

五 FIVE



MEANING

Five.



REMEMBERING THIS KANJI

This is how most people feel when their work day ends at FIVE o'clock.

COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Common **ON** reading: **GO** (ゴ)

Common **kun** reading: none

Create your **on-yomi** keyword and enter it in the table at the back of the book. After that, write your sentence to remember the **on-yomi** reading in the box below.

--

LESS COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Less common **ON** reading: none

Less common **kun** reading: **itsu** (ゝゝつ)

As you might expect, this reading is of most use because of its appearance in two words: 五日 [**itsu·ka** (ゝゝつ・か)] “the fifth day of the month”, and 五つ [**itsu·tsu** (ゝゝつ・つ)] the general counter for “five”.

COMMON WORDS AND COMPOUNDS		
五	<i>five</i>	GO ゴ
五人	five + person = <i>five people</i>	GO·NIN ゴ・ニン
五月	five + moon (month) = <i>May</i>	GO·GATSU ゴ・ガツ
五十	five + ten = <i>fifty</i>	GO·JŪ ゴ・ジュウ
五時	five + time = <i>five o'clock</i>	GO·JI ゴ・ジ

SAMPLE SENTENCE

五十人 で 山 へ 行きました。

GO·JŪ·NIN de yama e i·kimashita.

fifty people mountain went

= *Fifty (of us) went to the mountain.*

WRITING PRACTICE					

KANJI 15

目 EYE



MEANING

The general meaning is eye. An important secondary usage of the character, however, can be seen when it comes at the end of a number compound such as in the third example below. In these instances it is read with its **kun-yomi** and indicates the “-th” suffix in words such as “fourth” and “seventh” (it also expresses the related endings of “first”, “second” and “third” in such compounds).

REMEMBERING THIS KANJI

In the interests of full disclosure, it should be said that the Cyclops lobbied long and hard to be this book’s representative for “EYE”. Well, it looks like his efforts – which included a few thoughtfully chosen gifts – have paid off. Cyclops, you have been placed on an equal footing with Dracula!



COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Common ON reading: **MOKU** (モク)

Common **kun** reading: **me** (め)

me is the more common of the two readings. Remember to use the keyword for **MOKU** that you entered into the **on-yomi** table earlier (from the kanji “木”, Entry 13).

kun-yomi suggestion: “mate”

Create your **on-yomi** keyword and enter it in the table at the back of the book. After that, write your sentence to remember the **on-yomi** and **kun-yomi** readings in the box below.

--

LESS COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Less common **ON** reading: **BOKU** (ボク)

Less common **kun** reading: **ma** (ま)

COMMON WORDS AND COMPOUNDS		
目	eye	me め
目玉	eye + jewel = <i>eyeball</i>	me·dama め・だま
八回目	eight + rotate + eye = <i>the eighth time</i>	HACHI·KAI·me ハチ・カイ・め
目立つ	eye + stand = <i>to stand out</i>	me da·tsu め だ・つ
注目	pour + eye = <i>notice</i>	CHŪ·MOKU チュウ・モク

SAMPLE SENTENCE

王子 の 目 は 青い です。

Ō-JI no me wa ao-i desu.

prince eye blue

= *The prince's eyes are blue.*

WRITING PRACTICE					

KANJI 16

女 WOMAN

人	女	女						
---	---	---	--	--	--	--	--	--

MEANING

Woman/Female. No story required.



COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Common **ON** reading: **JO** (ジョ)

Common **kun** reading: **onna** (おんな)

kun-yomi suggestion: “**own NASA**”

Create your **on-yomi** keyword and enter it in the table at the back of the book. After that, write your sentence to remember the **on-yomi** and **kun-yomi** readings in the box below.

--

LESS COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Less common **ON** readings: **NYO** (ニ ヨ); **NYŌ** (ニ ヨ ウ)

Less common **kun** reading: **me** (め)

COMMON WORDS AND COMPOUNDS		
女	woman	onna おんな
女王	woman + king = <i>queen</i>	JO·Ō ジョ・オウ
少女	few + woman = <i>girl</i>	SHŌ·JO ショウ・ジョ
女心	woman + heart = <i>a woman's heart</i>	onna·gokoro おんな・ごころ
雪女	snow + woman = <i>snow fairy</i>	yuki·onna ゆき・おんな
男女	man + woman = <i>men and women</i>	DAN·JO ダン・ジョ

SAMPLE SENTENCE

女 の 人 は 木 の 下 で 止まりました。

onna no hito wa ki no shita de to·marimashita.

woman person tree under stopped

= *The woman stopped under a tree.*

WRITING PRACTICE					

KANJI 17

大 **LARGE**

一	ナ	大						
---	---	---	--	--	--	--	--	--

MEANING

Large/Big. The meanings of “important” and “great (not always in a positive sense)” can also be implied in words containing this kanji.

REMEMBERING THIS KANJI

Not many things are **LARGER** than a sumo wrestler, so we'll use this image as our connection to the character from now on.



COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Common **ON** readings: **DAI** (ダイ); **TAI** (タイ)

Common **kun** reading: **ō** (おお)

As **DAI** and **TAI** occur with equal frequency (**ō** much less often) when this kanji appears in the first position, this character presents a special challenge for students of Japanese. When it occupies other positions in a compound,

however, **DAI** is far and away the more common reading.

kun-yomi suggestion: “oboe”

Create your **on-yomi** keywords and enter them in the table at the back of the book. After that, write your sentence to remember the **on-yomi** and **kun-yomi** readings in the box below.

--

LESS COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Less common **ON** reading: none

Less common **kun** reading: none

Here is the irregular reading we met earlier in Entry 2.

IRREGULAR READING		
大人	large + person = <i>adult</i>	otona おとな

COMMON WORDS AND COMPOUNDS		
大きい	<i>large</i>	ō·kii おお·きい
大木	large + tree = <i>large tree</i>	TAI·BOKU タイ·ボク
大好き	large + like = <i>to really like</i>	DAI su·ki ダイ す·き
大体	large + body = <i>in general</i>	DAI·TAI ダイ·タイ
大雨	large + rain = <i>heavy rain</i>	ō·ame おお·あめ
大切	large + cut	TAI·SETSU

	= <i>important</i>	タイ・セツ
大学	large + study = <i>university</i>	DAI-GAKU ダイ・ガク

SAMPLE SENTENCE

あの 森 には 大木 が 多い。

ano mori ni wa TAI-BOKU ga ō-i.

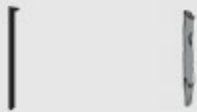
that forest many large trees

= *There are many large trees in that forest.*

WRITING PRACTICE

COMPONENT 18

POLE



Create your **on-yomi** keyword and enter it in the table at the back of the book. After that, write your sentence to remember the **on-yomi** and **kun-yomi** readings in the box below.

KANJI 18

中 MIDDLE

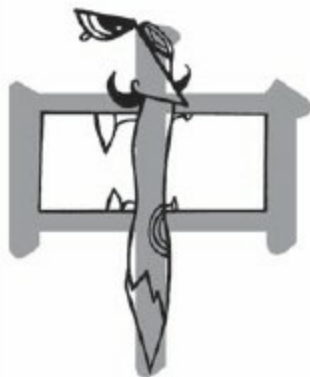
丨	冂	口	中					
BUILDING THIS KANJI Mouth (vampire) 口 (8) + Pole 丨 = 中								

MEANING

A versatile character that expresses the ideas of “middle”, “medium”, and “average”, etc. This kanji can also serve as an abbreviation for China; “日” is used as the equivalent with respect to Japan.

REMEMBERING THIS KANJI

I approached the sleeping **vampire** with the **pole** shaking in my hands: it was now or never. Raising the weapon over his feet I prepared to bring it down, but at the last moment the master’s words came back: “How many times must we go over this? Drive it through the **MIDDLE** of the **vampire**! The **MIDDLE**!” Yes, I thought, placing the **pole** over the **vampire’s** stomach, it would all go perfectly now.



COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Common **ON** reading: **CHŪ** (チュウ)

Common **kun** reading: **naka** (なか)

kun-yomi suggestion: “knack ’a”

LESS COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Less common **ON** reading: **JŪ** (ジュウ)

Less common **kun** reading: none

COMMON WORDS AND COMPOUNDS		
中	<i>middle</i>	naka なか
中心	middle + heart = <i>center</i>	CHŪ·SHIN チュウ・シン
中米	middle + rice (America) = <i>Central America</i>	CHŪ·BEI チュウ・ベイ
中国	middle + country = <i>China</i>	CHŪ·GOKU チュウ・ゴク

中立	middle + stand = <i>neutrality</i>	CHŪ·RITSU チュウ・リツ
中古	middle + old = <i>secondhand</i>	CHŪ·KO チュウ・コ
水中	water + middle = <i>underwater/in the water</i>	SUI·CHŪ スイ・チュウ

SAMPLE SENTENCE

車 の 中 に なに が あります か。

kuruma no naka ni nani ga arimasu ka.

car middle what is

= *What is in your car?*

WRITING PRACTICE

KANJI 19

八 EIGHT



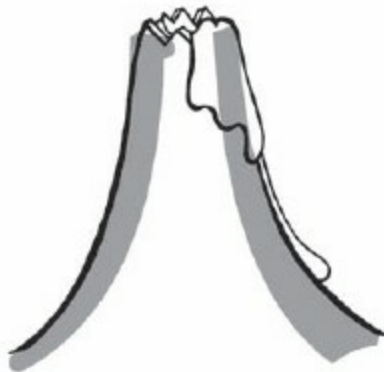
MEANING

Eight.

REMEMBERING THIS KANJI

This is another kanji in the manner of “one” and “mouth” for which it is useful to assign an external meaning, in this case, a volcano:

“I can’t be sure, but I think the Krakatoa volcano (which erupted in the 1880’s) was one of the EIGHT wonders of the ancient world.”



COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Common **ON** reading: **HACHI** (ハチ)

Common **kun** reading: none

Create your **on-yomi** keyword and enter it in the table at the back of the book. After that, write your sentence to remember the **on-yomi** reading in the box below.



LESS COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Less common **ON** reading: none

Less common **kun** readings: **yō** (よ う); **ya-** (やつ); **ya** (や)

Interestingly, the first two **kun-yomi** readings are like the less common **kun-yomi** for “three” and “four” (Entries 5 and 10, respectively), and are found in only one word each: 八日 [**yō·ka** (よ う・か)] “the eighth day of the month”, and 八つ [**yat·tsu** (やつ・つ)] the general counter for “eight”.

COMMON WORDS AND COMPOUNDS		
八	<i>eight</i>	HACHI ハチ
八月	eight + moon (month) = <i>August</i>	HACHI·GATSU ハチ・ガツ
八人	eight + person = <i>eight people</i>	HACHI·NIN ハチ・ニン
八円	eight + circle (yen) = <i>eight yen</i>	HACHI·EN ハチ・エン
八時	eight + time = <i>eight o'clock</i>	HACHI·JI ハチ・ジ

SAMPLE SENTENCE

八月 に 秋田 へ 行きましょう。

HACHI·GATSU ni Aki·ta e i·kimashō.

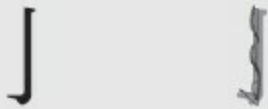
August Akita let's go

= *Let's go to Akita in August.*

WRITING PRACTICE					

COMPONENT 20

HARPOON



Note how the barbed hook on the bottom of this component distinguishes it from the pole (Component 18).

KANJI 20

小 SMALL

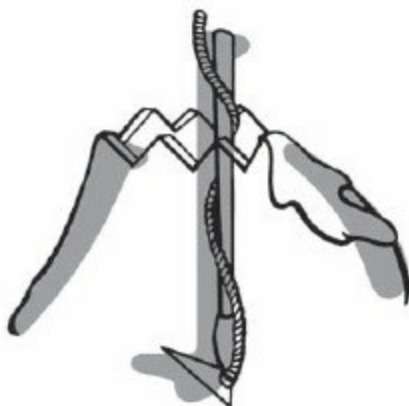
丿	勹	小						
BUILDING THIS KANJI								
Harpoon 丿 + Eight (volcano) 八(19) = 小								

MEANING

Small/Little.

REMEMBERING THIS KANJI

The dwarf spoke, his words **SMALL** comfort: “If you be going after the miniature lava whale,” he said, “you’d best toss your **harpoon** in that there **volcano** over yonder. Your chances of landing him are **SMALL**, though, given that he’s so... **SMALL**.”



COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Common **ON** reading: **SHŌ** (シヨウ)

Common **kun** readings: **chii** (ちい); **ko** (こ)

SHŌ and **ko** are the readings most often found in compounds, **chii** only being used in the first example below.

kun-yomi suggestions: “**cheeeese!**”; “**coat**”

Create your **on-yomi** keyword and enter it in the table at the back of the book. After that, write your sentence to remember the **on-yomi** and **kun-yomi** readings in the box below.

LESS COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Less common **ON** reading: none

Less common **kun** reading: **o** (お)

COMMON WORDS AND COMPOUNDS		
小さい	<i>small</i>	chii·sai ちい・さい
小春	<i>small + spring</i>	ko·haru

	= <i>Indian summer</i>	こ・はる
小国	small + country = <i>small country</i>	SHŌ・KOKU ショウ・コク
小高い	small + tall = <i>slightly elevated</i>	ko daka-i こ だか・い
最小	most + small = <i>smallest</i>	SAI・SHŌ サイ・ショウ

SAMPLE SENTENCE

あの 車 は とても 小さい です ね。

ano kuruma wa totemo chii-sai desu ne.

that car really small isn't it

= *That car is really small, isn't it?*

WRITING PRACTICE

CHAPTER 1 REVIEW EXERCISES

A. Please match the following kanji to their meanings.

- | | |
|-------|-----------|
| 1. 人 | a. Rotate |
| 2. 女 | b. Large |
| 3. 月 | c. Woman |
| 4. 木 | d. Mouth |
| 5. 大 | e. Person |
| 6. 二 | f. Two |
| 7. 回 | g. Moon |
| 8. 小 | h. Three |
| 9. 三 | i. Tree |
| 10. 口 | j. Small |

B. Please match the following meanings to their kanji, and these to their **on** or **kun-yomi**.

- | | | |
|-------------|------|----------------------|
| 1. Bright | a. 白 | 1. yama (やま) |
| 2. Five | b. 目 | 2. ICHI (イチ) |
| 3. White | c. 山 | 3. me (め) |
| 4. Four | d. 人 | 4. hi (ひ) |
| 5. Eye | e. 日 | 5. GO (ゴ) |
| 6. Middle | f. 一 | 6. HACHI (ハチ) |
| 7. Mountain | g. 明 | 7. SHI (シ) |
| 8. One | h. 中 | 8. aka (あか) |

9. Eight

i. 四

9. **naka** (なか)

10. Sun

j. 五

10. **HAKU** (ハク)

C. Please choose the best answer(s) to the following questions.

1. Which of the following readings apply to the kanji 人?

a. **Ō** (オウ)

b. **hito** (ひと)

c. **NIN** (ニン)

d. **JIN** (ジン)

e. **hi** (ひ)

2. Where is the most appropriate place to go in a spaceship?

a. 人

b. 目

c. 月

d. 口

e. 木

3. Which of the following readings apply to the kanji 女?

a. **ZEN** (ゼン)

b. **SHUN** (シュン)

c. **uchi** (うち)

d. **JO** (ジョ)

e. **onna** (おんな)

4. Which of the following readings apply to the kanji 口?

a. **KŌ** (コウ)

b. **haru** (はる)

- c. **SHI** (シ)
- d. **kuchi** (くち)
- e. **Ō** (オウ)

5. Which of the following readings apply to the kanji 日?

- a. **hi** (ひ)
- d. **to** (と)
- b. **KOKU** (コク)
- e. **JITSU** (ジツ)
- c. **NICHI** (ニチ)

D. Please answer the following questions.

1. Which is the correct reading of 回る?

- a. **mi·ru** (み·る)
- b. **sube·ru** (すべ·る)
- c. **haka·ru** (はか·る)
- d. **mawa·ru** (まわ·る)

2. What is the reading for 一日 when it indicates the first day of a month?

- a. **tama** (たま)
- b. **kuni** (くに)
- c. **uchi** (うち)
- d. **kuchi** (くち)
- e. **tsuitachi** (ついたち)

3. Given that **hitori** (ひとり) is the reading for 一人, what is the reading for 二人?

- a. **hatsuka** (はつか)

- b. **futari** (ふたり)
- c. **hatachi** (はたち)
- d. **futsuka** (ふつか)

4. Which of the following does not belong with the others?

- a. 一
- b. 八
- c. 四
- d. 小
- e. 三

5. Which is the correct reading of 白い?

- a. **furu-i** (ふる・い)
- b. **shiro-i** (しろ・い)
- c. **maru-i** (まる・い)
- d. **hiro-i** (ひろ・い)

E. Please match the following compounds and words to their meanings and pronunciations.

1. 三月

a. Twice

1. **hito-tsu**

(ひと・つ)

2. 白人

b. Obvious

2. **JIN-KŌ**

(ジン・コウ)

3. 二回

c. White

3. **shiro-i**

(しろ・い)

4. 小さい

d. Five people

4. **SAN-GATSU**

(サン・ガツ)

5. 明白

e. Small

5. **chii-sai**

(ちい・さい)

6. 人口

f. March

6. **NI·KAI**
(ニ・カイ)

7. 一つ

g. Large tree

7. **GO·NIN**
(ゴ・ニン)

8. 五人

h. One

8. **TAI·BOKU**
(タイ・ボク)

9. 白い

i. Population

9. **HAKU·JIN**
(ハク・ジン)

10. 大木

j. Caucasian

10. **MEI·HAKU**
(メイ・ハク)

CHAPTER 2 (KANJI 21-40)

KANJI 21

貝 SHELLFISH

丨	冂	冂	月	目	貝	貝		
BUILDING THIS KANJI Eye (Cyclops) 目 (15) + Eight (volcano) 八 (19) = 貝								

MEANING

Shellfish/Seashell. As the lack of common words and compounds in the table indicates, this is not the most useful character to learn for its own sake. It often appears as a component in other kanji, however, and for this reason needs to be learned here.

REMEMBERING THIS KANJI

Celebrating his inclusion in this book, the **Cyclops** decided to throw an enormous **SHELLFISH** barbecue for all his friends. Minotaurs, griffins, nymphs and satyrs... even the sirens showed up (after agreeing to refrain from singing, of course). It was quite a crowd, but the grill the **Cyclops** stretched over a nearby **volcano** was more than enough to accommodate the food. And what a variety of **SHELLFISH** there was! Oysters, mussels, abalone, scallops...everyone agreed it was the best spread since Zeus' clambake on Mt. Etna.



COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Common **ON** reading: none

Common **kun** reading: **kai** (かい)

This character is always unvoiced (**kai**) in the first position, and becomes voiced (**gai**) elsewhere.

kun-yomi suggestion: “**Kaiser** roll”. If you are choosing your own keywords for the **kun-yomi**, do not use the same word you selected for **KAI** (カイ), the **on-yomi** for “**回**” in Entry 9; it is best to keep the two types of readings separate. Create your sentence to remember the **kun-yomi** reading in the box below.

LESS COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Less common **ON** reading: **BAI** (バイ)

Less common **kun** reading: none

COMMON WORDS AND COMPOUNDS		
貝	<i>shellfish</i>	kai かい
生貝	life + shellfish	nama• gai

	= <i>raw shellfish</i>	なま・がい
赤貝	red + shellfish = <i>ark shell</i>	aka・gai あか・がい

SAMPLE SENTENCE

この レストラン の 赤貝 は 有名 です。

kono resutoran no aka・gai wa YŪ・MEI desu.

this restaurant ark shell famous is

= *The ark shell in this restaurant is famous.*

WRITING PRACTICE

COMPONENT 22

POLICE



Our hat will symbolize the police, or any other authority from sheriffs to park rangers.

KANJI 22

六 SIX

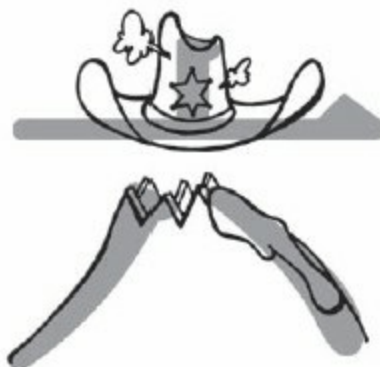
一	一	六	六					
BUILDING THIS KANJI Police 一 + Eight (volcano) 八(19) = 六								

MEANING

Six.

REMEMBERING THIS KANJI

Something tells me that if you throw a police hat into a volcano, it will burn. Don't ask me how I know this; it's my **SIXTH** sense.



COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Common **ON** reading: **ROKU** (ロク)

Common **kun** reading: none

Create your **on-yomi** keyword and enter it in the table at the back of the book. After that, write your sentence to remember the **on-yomi** reading in the box below.

--

LESS COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Less common **ON** reading: **RIKU** (リク)

Less common **kun** readings: **mui** (むいゝ); **mu-** (むっ); **mu** (む)

You may have guessed that these first two **kun-yomi** are found in only one word each: 六日 [**mui·ka** (むいゝ・か)] “the sixth day of the month”, and 六つ [**mut·tsu** (むっ・つ)] the general counter for “six”.

COMMON WORDS AND COMPOUNDS		
六	<i>six</i>	ROKU ロク
六人	six + person = <i>six people</i>	ROKU·NIN ロク・ニン
六月	six + moon (month) = <i>June</i>	ROKU·GATSU ロク・ガツ
六円	six + circle (yen) = <i>six yen</i>	ROKU·EN ロク・エン
六時	six + time = <i>six o'clock</i>	ROKU·JI ロク・ジ

SAMPLE SENTENCE

六人 は 日本 へ 行きました。

ROKU·NIN wa **NI·HON** e i·kimashita.

six people Japan went

= *The six people went to Japan.*

WRITING PRACTICE

[illegible]

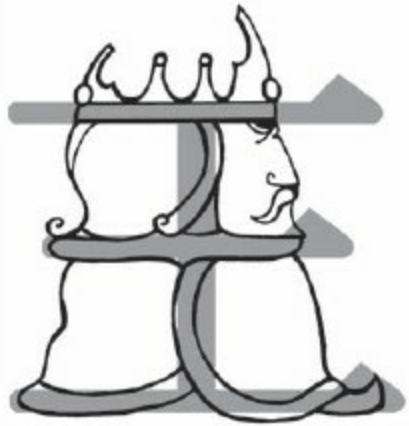
KANJI 23

王 KING

一	丨	𠂇	王					
---	---	---	---	--	--	--	--	--

MEANING

Crowns, scepters, long purple robes...think of kings and royalty when you see this kanji. No story required.



COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Common **ON** reading: Ō (オウ)

Common **kun** reading: none

Only one reading to deal with here — wouldn't it be nice if all the kanji were this well-behaved? Create your **on-yomi** keyword and enter it in the table at the back of the book. After that, write your sentence to remember the **on-yomi** reading in the box below.

--

LESS COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Less common **ON** reading: none

Less common **kun** reading: none

COMMON WORDS AND COMPOUNDS		
女王	women + king = <i>queen</i>	JO·Ō ジョ・オウ
王国	king + country = <i>kingdom</i>	Ō·KOKU オウ・コク
王朝	king + morning = <i>dynasty</i>	Ō·CHŌ オウ・チョウ
王子	king + child = <i>prince</i>	Ō·JI オウ・ジ
海王星	sea + king + star = <i>Neptune (planet)</i>	KAI·Ō·SEI カイ・オウ・セイ

SAMPLE SENTENCE

女王 が 日本 へ 行きました。

JO·Ō ga NIHON e i·kimashita.

Queen Japan went.

= *The queen went to Japan.*

WRITING PRACTICE					

KANJI 24

玉 JEWEL

一	丨	𠄎	王	玉				
BUILDING THIS KANJI								
King 王(23) + Jelly Bean 丩 = 玉								

MEANING

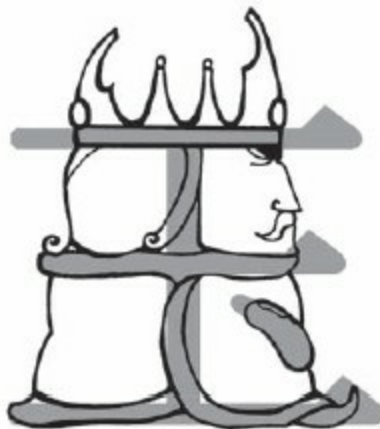
This character appears in the names of a variety of precious stones, including the compounds for rubies, sapphires, and emeralds. It also incorporates the sense of a “ball-like” object, a meaning evident in the final examples below.

Take note of the correct stroke order for this kanji (“King” + “Jelly bean”); the three horizontal lines are **not** written first.

REMEMBERING THIS KANJI

“I wish to reward you for your faithful service,” the **king** said to his minister. “There is a **jelly bean** for you at my feet; you may take it if you wish.” The man was a little confused by this, of course, until he bent down and saw a **JEWEL** shaped like a **jelly bean** next to the **king’s** shoes.

“You might not want to eat that,” smiled the **king**. “After all, **JEWELS** aren’t particularly tasty.”



COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Common **ON** reading: none

Common **kun** reading: **tama** (たま)

Note how often this character changes from the voiceless “**tama**” (たま) to its corresponding voiced form “**dama**” (だ ま) when in the second position.

kun-yomi suggestion: “hot **tamale**”

Create your sentence to remember the **kun-yomi** reading in the box below.

LESS COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Less common **ON** reading: **GYOKU** (ギョク)

Less common **kun** reading: none

COMMON WORDS AND COMPOUNDS		
玉	<i>jewel</i>	tama たま
玉ねぎ	<i>onion</i>	tama·negi たま・ねぎ
目玉	eye + jewel = <i>eyeball</i>	me·dama め・だま
水玉	water + jewel = <i>drop of water</i>	mizu·tama みず・たま
火玉	fire + jewel = <i>fireball</i>	hi·dama ひ・だま
雪玉	snow + jewel	yuki·dama

||= *snowball*

||ゆき・だま

SAMPLE SENTENCE

玉ねぎ を 切って 下さい。

tama·negi o ki·tte kuda·sai.

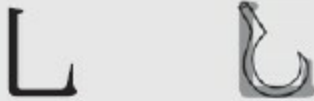
onion(s) cut please

= *Please cut the onions.*

WRITING PRACTICE

COMPONENT 25

HOOK



KANJI 25

心 HEART

心	心	心	心					
BUILDING THIS KANJI Jelly Bean 丿 + Hook 乚 + Jelly Bean 丿 + Jelly Bean 丿 = 心								

MEANING

This unique-looking character conveys the idea of heart in all its shades of meaning, be it the actual physical organ, the sense of “feelings”, or the concept of something’s “core”.

REMEMBERING THIS KANJI

There are a couple of ways to capture a **HEART**. The first is by using kindness; giving gifts such as a trio of **jelly beans** is an example of this method. The second is to simply use a **hook**.



COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Common **ON** reading: **SHIN** (シン)

Common **kun** reading: **kokoro** (こころ)

The **kun-yomi** for this kanji always becomes voiced (**gokoro**) when not in the first position (as in the second and fourth examples).

kun-yomi suggestion: “**cocoa roast**”

Create your **on-yomi** keyword and enter it in the table at the back of the book. After that, write your sentence to remember the **on-yomi** and **kun-yomi** readings in the box below.

LESS COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Less common **ON** reading: none

Less common **kun** reading: none

Here is a common irregular reading containing this character, composed of both **kun** and **on-yomi**.

IRREGULAR READING		
心地*	heart + ground = <i>feeling</i>	koko•CHI

		ここ・ち
--	--	------

COMMON WORDS AND COMPOUNDS		
心	<i>heart</i>	kokoro こころ
女心	woman + heart = <i>a woman's heart</i>	onna·gokoro おんな・ごころ
中心	middle + heart = <i>center</i>	CHŪ·SHIN チュウ・シン
下心	lower + heart = <i>ulterior motive</i>	shita·gokoro した・ごころ
安心	ease + heart = <i>peace of mind</i>	AN·SHIN アン・シン
愛国心	love + country + heart = <i>patriotism</i>	AI·KOKU·SHIN アイ・コク・シン

SAMPLE SENTENCE

女王 によ る と 愛国心 は 大切 だ そ う です。

JO·Ō ni yoru to AI·KOKU·SHIN wa TAI·SETSU da sō desu.

queen according to patriotism important

= *According to the queen, patriotism is important.*

WRITING PRACTICE					

KANJI 26

| | |---| | 玉 | |---| COUNTRY

丨	冂	冂	冂	冂	国	国	国	
BUILDING THIS KANJI								
Prison 口 + Jewel 玉(24) = 国								

MEANING

Think of “country” here in the sense of a nation state.

REMEMBERING THIS KANJI

Most folks will state that their **COUNTRY** is like a **jewel**, one that must be protected from external dangers. And so they build walls. But is there a difference between being protected and being in **prison**? It's a thorny question, but perhaps the philosopher Epicurus answered it best: “There may be a **jewel** of a **COUNTRY** within **prison** walls somewhere, but I'd be willing to bet they'd have lousy food.”



COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Common **ON** reading: **KOKU** (コク)

Common **kun** reading: **kuni** (くに)

kun-yomi suggestion: “tycoon era”

Create your **on-yomi** keyword and enter it in the table at the back of the book. After that, write your sentence to remember the **on-yomi** and **kun-yomi** readings in the box below.

--

LESS COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Less common **ON** reading: none

Less common **kun** reading: none

COMMON WORDS AND COMPOUNDS		
国	<i>country</i>	kuni くに
王国	king + country = <i>kingdom</i>	Ō·KOKU オウ・コク
全国	complete + country = <i>the whole country/</i> <i>nationwide</i>	ZEN·KOKU ゼン・コク
入国	enter + country = <i>to enter a country</i>	NYŪ·KOKU ニュウ・コク
国内	country + inside = <i>domestic</i>	KOKU·NAI コク・ナイ
外国人	= <i>foreigner</i> outside + country + person	GAI·KOKU·JIN ガイ・コク・ジン
愛国心	love + country + heart = <i>patriotism</i>	AI·KOKU·SHIN アイ・コク・シン

SAMPLE SENTENCE

あの 国 に は 外国人 が 多い。

ano kuni ni wa GAI·KOKU·JIN ga ō-i.

that country many foreigners

= *There are many foreigners in that country.*

WRITING PRACTICE					

COMPONENT 27

UMBRELLA



KANJI 27

全 COMPLETE

ノ	人	伞	伞	伞	全			
BUILDING THIS KANJI Umbrella 伞 + King 王(23) = 全								

MEANING

This kanji expresses the idea of wholeness and completion. Note in the sample compounds how both the first and third entries can have different connotations. Although the context will usually make the meaning clear, such ambiguity is a common feature of Japanese.

REMEMBERING THIS KANJI

*“You might imagine that the **king**’s **umbrella** bearer has a job that even a COMPLETE idiot could do. Well, you’re wrong, because you’d better not let the **king** get wet. Sadly, I learned this the hard way, for one afternoon the **umbrella** I chose had a hole, and a drop of moisture sprinkled the **king**’s robe. That was enough to leave me dangling in the dungeon for a week. A tyrant **king**, you say? Perhaps, but the lesson I learned that day has remained with me forever: the **umbrella** must COMPLETELY cover the **king**.”*



COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Common **ON** reading: **ZEN** (ゼン)

Common **kun** reading: none

Given that “Zen” (as in Buddhism) is one of the few Japanese words to have entered the English language, feel free to take advantage of this by using it to remember this reading. For the sentence, then, you might employ some Zen-like simplicity: “Complete **ZEN**”.

Create your **on-yomi** keyword and enter it in the table at the back of the book. After that, write your sentence to remember the **on-yomi** reading in the box below.

--

LESS COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Less common **ON** reading: none

Less common **kun** readings: **matta** (まった); **matto** (まっと)

COMMON WORDS AND COMPOUNDS		
全国	complete + country = <i>the whole country</i> / <i>nationwide</i>	ZEN·KOKU ゼン・コク
	ease + complete	AN·ZEN

安全	= <i>safety</i>	アン・ゼン
全校	complete + school = <i>the whole school/ all schools</i>	ZEN·KŌ ゼン・コウ
全力	complete + strength = <i>all one's power</i>	ZEN·RYOKU ゼン・リョク
全体	complete + body = <i>the whole</i>	ZEN·TAI ゼン・タイ
全部	complete + part = <i>all</i>	ZEN·BU ゼン・ブ

SAMPLE SENTENCE

田中さんは 全国 を 回る。

Ta·naka-san wa ZEN·KOKU o mawa·ru.

Tanaka-san whole country go around

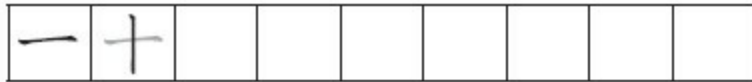
= *Tanaka-san is going around the whole country.*

WRITING PRACTICE

--	--	--	--	--	--

KANJI 28

十 TEN



MEANING

Ten. The first two examples of Entry 176 show another use for this character, an interesting application based entirely on its shape.

REMEMBERING THIS KANJI

This is another simple character for which we will assign an external meaning: scarecrow.

In case you're wondering why this particular scarecrow was chosen, the answer is simple: he was rated a perfect **TEN** in terms of style and poise.



COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Common **ON** reading: JŪ (ジュー)

Common **kun** reading: none

Say hello to the first character for which you should know all the compounds

in the main table below. You've already come a long way!

Create your **on-yomi** keyword and enter it in the table at the back of the book. After that, write your sentence to remember the **on-yomi** reading in the box below.

LESS COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Less common **ON** reading: **JITSU** (ジツ)

Less common **kun** readings: **tō** (とお); **to** (と)

tō appears with only one word, 十日 [**tō·ka** (とお・か)] “the tenth day of the month”.

Two common irregular readings, found earlier with the kanji 二.

IRREGULAR READINGS		
二十日	two + ten + sun (day) = <i>twentieth day of the month</i>	hatsuka はつか
二十歳*	two + ten + annual = <i>twenty years old</i>	hatachi はたち

COMMON WORDS AND COMPOUNDS		
十	<i>ten</i>	JŪ ジュウ
十月	ten + moon (month) = <i>October</i>	JŪ·GATSU ジュウ・ガツ
十一月	ten + one + moon (month) = <i>November</i>	JŪ·ICHI·GATSU ジュウ・イチ・ガツ
	ten + two + moon	JŪ·NI·GATSU

十二月	(month) = <i>December</i>	ジュウ・ニ・ガツ
十六	ten + six = <i>sixteen</i>	JŪ・ROKU ジュウ・ロク
十八	ten + eight = <i>eighteen</i>	JŪ・HACHI ジュウ・ハチ

SAMPLE SENTENCE

十月 には あの 木 は 美しく なります。

JŪ・GATSU ni wa ano ki wa utsuku·shiku narimasu.

October that tree beautiful becomes

= *That tree becomes beautiful in October.*

WRITING PRACTICE

KANJI 29

早 **EARLY**

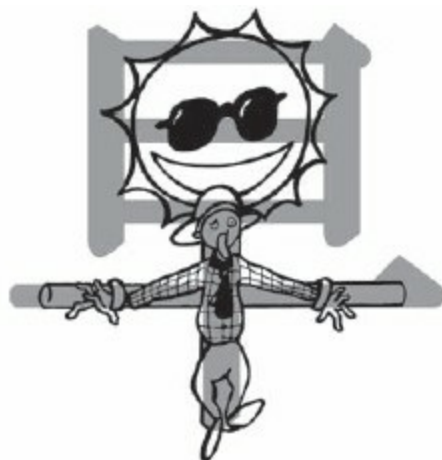
丨	冂	𠂔	日	旦	早			
BUILDING THIS KANJI Sun 日 (6) + Ten (scarecrow) 十 (28) = 早								

MEANING

Early/Fast. It is important to remember that this kanji expresses both of these ideas.

REMEMBERING THIS KANJI

There isn't much a **scarecrow** can do for exercise, but ours is determined to stay in shape. How so? Well, **EARLY** each day, once the **sun** is up, he'll launch into a vigorous routine of finger stretches, toe curls, and head rolls. As it's too hot to do this later on, it's fortunate he's an **EARLY** riser.



COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Common **ON** reading: SŌ (ソウ)

Common **kun** reading: **haya** (はや)

Note the intransitive/transitive verb pair in the table.

kun-yomi suggestion: “**hi ya!**”

Create your **on-yomi** keyword and enter it in the table at the back of the book. After that, write your sentence to remember the **on-yomi** and **kun-yomi** readings in the box below.

--

LESS COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Less common **ON** reading: **SATSU** (サツ)

Less common **kun** reading: none

COMMON WORDS AND COMPOUNDS		
早い	<i>early; fast</i>	haya·i はや·い
早まる (intr)	<i>to be in a hurry</i>	haya·maru はや·まる
早める (tr)	<i>to hurry (something)</i>	haya·meru はや·める
早口	fast + mouth = <i>rapid speaking</i>	haya·kuchi はや·くち
早春	early + spring = <i>early spring</i>	SŌ·SHUN ソウ·シュン
早朝	early + morning = <i>early morning</i>	SŌ·CHŌ ソウ·チョウ

SAMPLE SENTENCE

どうして そんな に 早く 来た の です か。

dōshite sonna ni haya·ku ki·ta no desu ka.

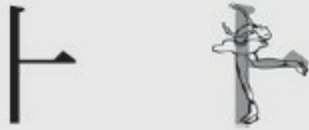
why so early come

= *Why did you come so early?*

WRITING PRACTICE					

COMPONENT 30

GOOD FIGURE SKATER



A good figure skater always keeps her leg straight in this position.

KANJI 30

上 UPPER

丨	乚	上						
BUILDING THIS KANJI								
Good Figure Skater 乚 + One (bottom of a bun) 一(3) = 上								

MEANING

This simple-looking character expresses a broad range of ideas relating to the words “upper”, “on”, and “over”, among others; it can refer to anything from goods of high quality to superiors at work. It’s a fascinating kanji that is widely used, and one that rewards patient study.

REMEMBERING THIS KANJI

Look at the beautiful posture, with the outstretched leg held perfectly straight; this is a **good figure skater** with complete confidence in her abilities, skating as if the ice were the **bottom of a bun** that would not hurt her if she fell. This is clearly an **UPPER**-class athlete.

丨	ト	上						
BUILDING THIS KANJI Good Figure Skater ト + One (bottom of a bun) 一(3) = 上								

COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Common **ON** reading: **JŌ** (ジョウ)

Common **kun** readings: **kami** (かみ); **ue** (うえ); **nobo** (のぼ); **a** (あ); **uwa** (うわ)

Take a deep breath, as this kanji contains the second largest number of common readings for any character you will encounter in Japanese (you won't have long to wait for the one with the most!). The **on-yomi JŌ**, however, is by far the most frequently used, and the **kun-yomi** readings will often appear with **hiragana** accompaniment (which will offer a clue as to which pronunciation should be used for the kanji).

The verb **a•geru** (あ•げる) in example 5 below, incidentally, is almost always used in a transitive sense (that is, it “lifts” some object in either a physical or symbolic way), and is best thought of as being paired with the intransitive **a•garu** (あ•がる).

Before proceeding with your sentence, it is useful now to consider one of the most important benefits of the **on-yomi** table: because you will have chosen different keywords for each of the readings, there will be no danger of confusing pronunciations differing only in their use of a “long” versus “short” vowel sound. We encounter the first example of this here, with **JŌ** sounding much like **JO** (the **on-yomi** for “女” in Entry 16), but needing to be memorized as a separate reading.

kun-yomi suggestions: “make a meal”; “true age”; “no bones”; “anaconda”; “new wok”

Write your sentence to remember the readings below.

LESS COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Less common **ON** reading: **SHŌ** (シ ョ ウ)

Less common **kun** reading: none

COMMON WORDS AND COMPOUNDS		
上	<i>upper</i>	kami かみ
上	<i>over; on</i>	ue うえ
上る (intr)	<i>to climb</i>	nobo·ru のぼる
上がる (intr)	<i>to rise</i>	a·garu あがる
上げる (tr/intr)	<i>to lift</i>	a·geru あげる
上手	upper + hand = <i>skillful</i>	JŌ·ZU ジョウズ

SAMPLE SENTENCE

肉 は テーブル の 上 に あります。

NIKU wa TĒBURU no ue ni arimasu.

meat table on is

= *The meat is on the table.*

COMPONENT 31

POOR FIGURE SKATER



A poor figure skater lets her leg droop in this position.

KANJI 31

下 LOWER

一	下	下						
BUILDING THIS KANJI One (top of a bun) 一(3) + Poor Figure Skater 下 = 下								

MEANING

This obvious partner to the preceding kanji expresses a similarly wide range of ideas, with words in this case relating to the notions of “lower”, “under”, and “below”.

REMEMBERING THIS KANJI

No doubt about it: figure skating crowds are tough, and will not tolerate **LOWER**-class skaters. In one competition, all it took was a **poor figure skater**’s drooping leg to make the audience hurl the **tops of their buns** at her in disgust.



COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Common **ON** readings: **KA** (カ); **GE** (ゲ)

Common **kun** readings: **shita** (した); **shimo** (しも); **o** (お); **sa** (さ); **kuda** (くだ)

Here it is: the kanji with the most common readings of all. Although it can be a bit of work trying to come to grips with this character's many angles, keep in mind that the final three **kun-yomi** above are all verb stems, and will thus be accompanied by **hiragana** hinting at the correct pronunciation. When it comes to the readings used for compounds, **KA** or **GE** will be encountered far more than the others, although there are no easily discernible patterns as to when each of these is used.

This kanji illustrates well the difference between intransitive/transitive verb pairs. Refer back to “早” and “上” (Entries 29 and 30). Notice a similarity between the verbs presented there and examples four and five shown here.

kun-yomi suggestions: “**she tackled**”; “**she moped**”; “**orangutan**”; “**sat**”; “**barracuda**”

Write your sentence to remember the readings below.

LESS COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Less common **ON** reading: none

Less common **kun** reading: **moto** (もと)

IRREGULAR READING		
下手	lower + hand = <i>to be poor at</i> (something)	he·ta へ・た

COMMON WORDS AND COMPOUNDS		
下	<i>low; below; under</i>	shita した
下りる (intr)	<i>to come down</i>	o·riru お・りる
下ろす (tr)	<i>to take down</i>	o·rosu お・ろす
下がる (intr)	<i>to hang down (on one's own)</i>	sa·garu さ・がる
下げる (tr)	<i>to lower (something)</i>	sa·geru さ・げる
下さる	<i>to oblige</i>	kuda·saru くだ・さる
上下	upper + lower = <i>high and low</i>	JŌ·GE ジョウ・ゲ
天下	heaven + lower = <i>the whole land</i>	TEN·KA テン・カ

SAMPLE SENTENCE

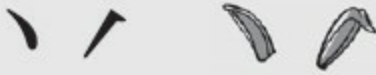
木 から 下りて 下さい。

ki kara o·rite kuda·sai.

tree from come down please
= *Please come down from the tree.*

COMPONENT 32

RABBIT



KANJI 32

米 RICE

丶	丶	丿	半	米	米			
BUILDING THIS KANJI Rabbit 丶 + Tree 木(13) = 米								

MEANING

(Uncooked) rice. As can be seen in the last five compounds below, this character is used, curiously, to symbolize the Americas (recall how 中 is used in a similar way for China, and 日 for Japan). Note how the fourth example combines two such characters; this occurs frequently in written Japanese.

REMEMBERING THIS KANJI

Interesting fact: Japan has the equivalent of an Easter Bunny! The difference is that this **rabbit** will sneak around behind **trees** until he can dart out and hide **RICE** for children to find. Unfortunately, as the grains are really small and a lot less interesting than colored eggs, many kids have grown bored with the custom. As a result of this, the tradition of the Japanese **RICE rabbit** is not well-known today.



COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Common **ON** readings: **MAI** (マイ); **BEI** (ベイ)

Common **kun** reading: **kome** (こめ)

BEI is used as the reading in compounds when this kanji relates to the Americas, with **MAI** the primary choice when it refers to rice.

kun-yomi suggestion: “**comb** acres”

Create your **on-yomi** keyword and enter it in the table at the back of the book. After that, write your sentence to remember the **on-yomi** and **kun-yomi** readings in the box below.

LESS COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Less common **ON** reading: none

Less common **kun** reading: none

COMMON WORDS AND COMPOUNDS		
米	<i>rice (uncooked)</i>	kome こめ
白米	white + rice = <i>polished rice</i>	HAKU·MAI ハク・マイ

米国	rice (America) + country = <i>the United States</i>	BEI·KOKU ベイ・コク
日米	sun + rice (America) = <i>Japan – U.S.</i>	NICHI·BEI ニチ・ベイ
中米	middle + rice (America) = <i>Central America</i>	CHŪ·BEI チュウ・ベイ
北米	north + rice (America) = <i>North America</i>	HOKU·BEI ホク・ベイ
南米	south + rice (America) = <i>South America</i>	NAN·BEI ナン・ベイ

SAMPLE SENTENCE

米国 の 牛肉 は 高い。

BEI·KOKU no GYŪ·NIKU wa taka·i.

United States beef expensive

= *U.S. beef is expensive.*

WRITING PRACTICE

KANJI 33

目 SELF

'	丨	𠂇	𠂇	𠂇	𠂇			
BUILDING THIS KANJI								
Jelly Bean 丿 + Eye (Cyclops) 目(15) = 目								

MEANING

This character conveys the important idea of self. Its function becomes clearer if you think of such English words as “self-confidence” and “self-government”. When these and other words beginning with “self-” are translated into Japanese, the resulting compound will usually begin with this kanji.

REMEMBERING THIS KANJI

Everyone is aware of a **Cyclops**’ weakness for **jelly beans**. It was this, in fact, that saved Hercules; dangling a **jelly bean** over the **Cyclops**’ head was enough to make the monster drop his club and lose all sense of **SELF**. “It was sad, actually,” Hercules said at a later press conference.

“No **SELF**-respecting **Cyclops** should act that way. He needs more **SELF**-control.”



COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Common **ON** reading: **JI** (ジ)

Common **kun** reading: none

Write your sentence to remember the reading below.

LESS COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Less common **ON** reading: **SHI** (シ)

Less common **kun** reading: **mizuka** (みずか)

SHI appears only in the compound 自然 (Self/Suchlike*), the Japanese word for “nature”: **SHI-ZEN** (シ・ゼン).

COMMON WORDS AND COMPOUNDS		
自国	self + country = <i>one's homeland</i>	JI-KOKU ジ・コク
自立	self + stand = <i>independence</i>	JI-RITSU ジ・リツ
自分	self + part = <i>oneself</i>	JI-BUN ジ・ブン
自体	self + body = <i>in itself</i>	JI-TAI ジ・タイ

SAMPLE SENTENCE

自分 の 車 が 買いたい。

JI-BUN no kuruma ga ka·itai.

oneself car want to buy

= I want to buy my own car.

WRITING PRACTICE

[illegible]

COMPONENT 34

GORILLA



KANJI 34

内 INSIDE

丨	𠤎	内	内					
BUILDING THIS KANJI Gorilla 𠤎 + Person 人(2) = 内								

MEANING

Inside/Interior/Within. This character can also convey the idea of “home”.

REMEMBERING THIS KANJI

*“You can know nothing of the **gorilla**’s ways unless you are **INSIDE** its world. To truly understand, each **person** must get **INSIDE** an Acme™ **gorilla** suit – available for a limited time at this low introductory price – and head immediately into the jungle. It is then a simple matter of being accepted by a **gorilla** pod; once this has been done, a **person** can delve easily **INSIDE** the consciousness of our greatest primate.”*



COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Common **ON** reading: **NAI** (ナイ)

Common **kun** reading: **uchi** (うち)

kun-yomi suggestion: “**ooh, cheetahs**”

Create your **on-yomi** keyword and enter it in the table at the back of the book. After that, write your sentence to remember the **on-yomi** and **kun-yomi** readings in the box below.

LESS COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Less common **ON** reading: **DAI** (ダイ)

Less common **kun** reading: none

COMMON WORDS AND COMPOUNDS		
内	<i>inside</i>	uchi うち
国内	country + inside = <i>domestic</i>	KOKU·NAI コク・ナイ
市内	city + inside	SHI·NAI

	= <i>within the city</i>	シ・ナイ
内海	inside + sea = <i>inland sea</i>	NAI・KAI ナイ・カイ
車内	car + inside = <i>inside the car</i>	SHA・NAI シャ・ナイ
町内	town + inside = <i>in the town</i>	CHŌ・NAI チョウ・ナイ

SAMPLE SENTENCE

その 人 は 国内 で 有名 です。

sono hito wa KOKU・NAI de YŪ・MEI desu.

that person domestic famous

= *That person is famous domestically.*

WRITING PRACTICE					

COMPONENT 35

SUPERHERO

ナ



KANJI 35

右 RIGHT

ノ	ナ	ナ	右	右				
BUILDING THIS KANJI Superhero ナ + Mouth (vampire) 口(8) = 右								

MEANING

Right/Right-hand side.

REMEMBERING THIS KANJI

Vampires are extremely **RIGHT** wing, demanding unconditional obedience to their authority and strict adherence to traditional ways. Even **superheroes** can turn to the **RIGHT** under their hypnotic influence; they invariably develop a tougher stance on crime and become less likely to wear skin-tight costumes.



COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Common **ON** reading: none

Common **kun** reading: **migi** (みぎ)

kun-yomi suggestion: “foamy geese”

Create your sentence to remember the **kun-yomi** reading in the box below.

LESS COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Less common **ON** readings: **YŪ** (ユウ); **U** (ウ)

Less common **kun** reading: none

COMMON WORDS AND COMPOUNDS		
右	<i>right</i>	migi みぎ
右回り	right + rotate = <i>clockwise</i>	migi mawa·ri みぎ まわ·り
右上	right + upper = <i>upper right</i>	migi·ue みぎ·うえ
右下	right + lower	migi·shita

	= <i>lower right</i>	みぎ・した
右手	right + hand = <i>right hand</i>	migi·te みぎ・て
右足	right + leg = <i>right leg</i>	migi·ashi みぎ・あし

SAMPLE SENTENCE

山口さんは右の目がかゆい。

Yama·guchi-san wa migi no me ga kayui.

Yamaguchi-san right eye itchy

= *Yamaguchi-san's right eye is itchy.*

WRITING PRACTICE

KANJI 36

有 HAVE

ノ	ナ	ナ	有	有	有			
BUILDING THIS KANJI Superhero ナ + Moon 月(11) = 有								

MEANING

Have/Possess.

REMEMBERING THIS KANJI

“Help me!” yelled the **moon**. “I’m going down!”

And indeed he was. But just then a **superhero** arrived on the scene.

“I **HAVE** you, **moon**,” he said, flying him higher into the sky before returning to Earth with a smile. “Citizens,” he declared before us, “you **HAVE** your **moon** back.”

“Geez,” I heard someone whisper, “how many times should we tell this guy that the **moon’s** *supposed* to go down?”



COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Common **ON** reading: YŪ (ユウ)

Common **kun** reading: a (あ)

kun-yomi suggestion: “Atilla”

Create your **on-yomi** keyword and enter it in the table at the back of the book. After that, write your sentence to remember the **on-yomi** and **kun-yomi** readings in the box below.

--

LESS COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Less common **ON** reading: U (ウ)

Less common **kun** reading: none

COMMON WORDS AND COMPOUNDS		
有る	<i>to have</i>	a•ru あ•る
有力	have + strength = <i>powerful</i>	YŪ•RYOKU ユウ•リョク
有名	have + name = <i>famous</i>	YŪ•MEI ユウ•メイ
私有	private + have = <i>privately owned</i>	SHI•YŪ シ•ユウ
公有	public + have = <i>publicly owned</i>	KŌ•YŪ コウ•ユウ
国有化	country + have + change = <i>nationalization</i>	KOKU•YŪ•KA コク•ユウ•カ

SAMPLE SENTENCE

= *The Egyptian pyramids are famous.*

[illegible]

KANJI 37

肉 MEAT

丨	冂	内	内	肉	肉			
BUILDING THIS KANJI								
Inside 内(34) + Person 人(2) = 肉								

MEANING

Meat/Flesh. In addition to its literal meaning, this kanji also has a sexual connotation through its appearance in words such as “lust” and “sensuality”.

REMEMBERING THIS KANJI

“What is really **inside** a **person**?” Troubled by this question, I embarked on an extended spiritual quest that eventually led me to a remote Himalayan summit. There I fasted, growing weak and delirious until a talking leopard appeared one day and laid a paw on my shoulder. “What are you, nuts?” it said. “Take it from me: there’s nothing but **MEAT** in there.”



COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Common ON reading: NIKU (ニク)

Common **kun** reading: none

Create your **on-yomi** keyword and enter it in the table at the back of the book. After that, write your sentence to remember the **on-yomi** reading in the box below.

--

LESS COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Less common **ON** reading: none

Less common **kun** reading: none

COMMON WORDS AND COMPOUNDS		
肉	<i>meat</i>	NIKU ニク
人肉	person + meat = <i>human flesh</i>	JIN·NIKU ジン・ニク
牛肉	cow + meat = <i>beef</i>	GYŪ·NIKU ギョウ・ニク
肉親	meat + parent = <i>blood relative</i>	NIKU·SHIN ニク・シン
肉体	meat + body = <i>the body</i>	NIKU·TAI ニク・タイ

SAMPLE SENTENCE

あの 四人 は 牛肉 が 大好き です。

ano yo·NIN wa GYŪ·NIKU ga DAI su·ki desu.

those four people beef really like.

= *Those four people really like beef.*

WRITING PRACTICE					

KANJI 38

半 HALF

丶	丿	㇏	㇏	半				
BUILDING THIS KANJI								
Rabbit 丶 + Two ㇏(4) + Pole = 半								

MEANING

Half. This character also incorporates a sense of “partial”, forming many words that English conveys with the prefix “semi-”.

REMEMBERING THIS KANJI

I remember a chef answering a question I once posed. “Yes,” she said, “a **pole** *could* split a **rabbit** into **two** HALF sections.” I also recall her noting that there would only be HALF the **rabbit** left if it were prepared in such a ridiculous way.



COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Common ON reading: HAN (ノヽヅ)

Common kun reading: none

Create your **on-yomi** keyword and enter it in the table at the back of the book. After that, write your sentence to remember the **on-yomi** reading in the box below.

--

LESS COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Less common **ON** reading: none

Less common **kun** reading: **naka** (なか)

COMMON WORDS AND COMPOUNDS		
上半	upper + half = <i>upper half</i>	JŌ·HAN ジョウ・ハン
下半	lower + half = <i>lower half</i>	KA·HAN カ・ハン
半日	half + sun (day) = <i>half a day</i>	HAN·NICHİ ハン・ニチ
半分	half + part = <i>half</i>	HAN·BUN ハン・ブン
九時半	nine + time + half = <i>nine-thirty</i>	KU·JI·HAN ク・ジ・ハン
半円	half + circle = <i>semicircle</i>	HAN·EN ハン・エン

SAMPLE SENTENCE

木口さんは半日ぐらい新聞を読みました。

Ki-guchi-san wa HAN·NICHİ gurai SHIN·BUN o yo·mimashita.

Kiguchi-san half a day about newspaper read

= *Kiguchi-san read the newspaper for about half a day.*

WRITING PRACTICE					

KANJI 39

九 NINE

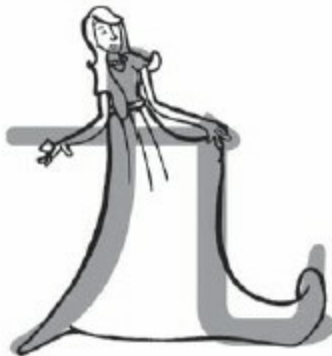
ノ	九							
---	---	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

MEANING

Nine.

REMEMBERING THIS KANJI

This is clearly someone dressed to the **NINES**.



COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Common **ON** readings: **KYŪ** (キュウ); **KU** (ク)

Common **kun** reading: none

KYŪ is the general reading for this kanji. You are only likely to encounter **KU** in the third and fourth examples below.

Create your **on-yomi** keyword and enter it in the table at the back of the book. After that, write your sentence to remember the **on-yomi** reading in the box below.

LESS COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Less common **ON** reading: none

Less common **kun** reading: **kokono** (ここの)

This is another reading of most use because of its appearance in two words: 九日 [**kokono·ka** (ここの・か)] “the ninth day of the month”, and 九つ [**kokono·tsu** (ここの・つ)] the general counter for “nine”.

COMMON WORDS AND COMPOUNDS		
九	<i>nine</i>	KYŪ キュウ
九十	nine + ten = <i>ninety</i>	KYŪ·JŪ キュウ・ジュウ
九月	nine + moon (month) = <i>September</i>	KU·GATSU ク・ガツ
九時	nine + time = <i>nine o'clock</i>	KU·JI ク・ジ

SAMPLE SENTENCE

中山さん は 九月 に 日本 へ 行きました。

Naka·yama-san wa KU·GATSU ni NI·HON e i·kimashita.

Nakayama-san September Japan went

= *Nakayama-san went to Japan in September.*

WRITING PRACTICE					

KANJI 40

春 SPRING

一	=	三	𠂇	夫	春	春	春
BUILDING THIS KANJI Three (full hamburger) 三(5) + Person 人(2) + Sun 日(6) = 春							

MEANING

This elegant-looking character refers to the season of spring. Interestingly, it also carries a hint of sexuality and amorousness, a meaning apparent by its presence in the Japanese word for “puberty”, as well as in one of the compounds below. Make sure in writing this kanji to follow the order of the components as they are listed above (three + person + sun).

REMEMBERING THIS KANJI

It's doubtful any **person** looks forward to **SPRING** more than I do. As a matter of fact, on the first day of the season you'll surely see me in the backyard before dawn, firing up my barbecue to make the most enormous **full hamburger** possible. And why do I do that? Well, it's simple: I'm a **person** who wants to welcome the **SPRING sun** properly when it rises!



COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Common **ON** reading: **SHUN** (シュン)

Common **kun** reading: **haru** (はる)

kun-yomi suggestion: “**harumph**”

Create your **on-yomi** keyword and enter it in the table at the back of the book. After that, write your sentence to remember the **on-yomi** and **kun-yomi** readings in the box below.

--

LESS COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Less common **ON** reading: none

Less common **kun** reading: none

COMMON WORDS AND COMPOUNDS		
春	<i>spring</i>	haru はる
小春	small + spring = <i>Indian summer</i>	ko·haru こ・はる
青春	blue + spring = <i>youth</i>	SEI·SHUN セイ・シュン
売春	sell + spring = <i>prostitution</i>	BAI·SHUN バイ・シュン
春分	spring + part = <i>vernal equinox</i>	SHUN·BUN シュン・ブン
来春	come + spring = <i>next spring</i>	RAI·SHUN ライ・シュン

SAMPLE SENTENCE

日本 の 春 は 美しい。
NI·HON no haru wa utsuku·shii.
Japan spring beautiful.
= *Japan's spring is beautiful.*

WRITING PRACTICE					

CHAPTER 2 REVIEW EXERCISES

A. Please match the following kanji to their meanings.

- | | |
|-------|--------------|
| 1. 玉 | a. Ten |
| 2. 全 | b. Country |
| 3. 米 | c. Jewel |
| 4. 貝 | d. Right |
| 5. 肉 | e. Meat |
| 6. 十 | f. Rice |
| 7. 心 | g. Upper |
| 8. 上 | h. Shellfish |
| 9. 右 | i. Heart |
| 10. 国 | j. Complete |

B. Please match the following meanings to their kanji, and these to their **on** or **kun-yomi**.

- | | | |
|-----------|------|----------------------|
| 1. Nine | a. 内 | 1. HAN (ハン) |
| 2. Have | b. 春 | 2. uchi (うち) |
| 3. Inside | c. 早 | 3. haru (はる) |
| 4. King | d. 九 | 4. YŪ (ユウ) |
| 5. Half | e. 下 | 5. ROKU (ロク) |
| 6. Spring | f. 有 | 6. haya (はや) |
| 7. Self | g. 自 | 7. shita (した) |
| 8. Lower | h. 半 | 8. JI (ジ) |

- | | | |
|----------|------|---------------|
| 9. Early | i. 六 | 9. Ō (オウ) |
| 10. Six | j. 王 | 10. KYŪ (キュウ) |

C. Please choose the best answer(s) to the following questions.

1. Which of the following readings apply to the kanji 米?
 - a. MAI (マイ)
 - b. kome (こめ)
 - c. SHŪ (シュウ)
 - d. BEI (ベイ)
 - e. to (と)

2. Which of the following readings apply to the kanji 上?
 - a. nobo (のぼ)
 - b. ue (うえ)
 - c. naka (なか)
 - d. JŌ (ジョウ)
 - e. kami (かみ)

3. Which of the following readings apply to the kanji 心?
 - a. migi (みぎ)
 - b. SHIN (シン)
 - c. tsuki (つき)
 - d. kokoro (こころ)
 - e. HAN (ハン)

4. Which of the following is a sushi chef most likely to put on rice?
 - a. 王
 - b. 自

- c. 早
- d. 貝
- e. 国

5. Which of the following readings apply to the kanji 下?

- a. **kuda** (くだ)
- b. **KA** (カ)
- c. **shita** (した)
- d. **o** (お)
- e. **GE** (ゲ)

D. Please choose the best answer to the following questions.

1. Which is the correct reading of 上がる?

- a. **to·garu** (と・がる)
- b. **a·garu** (あ・がる)
- c. **ma·garu** (ま・がる)
- d. **sa·garu** (さ・がる)

2. Which answer best captures the meaning of the compound 米国?

- a. Wednesday
- b. Vampire
- c. The United States
- d. Oatmeal
- e. Heart failure

3. Which is the correct reading for 九月?

- a. **KU·GATSU** (ク・ガツ)
- b. **kokono·GATSU** (ここの・ガツ)
- c. **KYŪ·GATSU** (キュウ・ガツ)
- d. **kokono·tsuki** (ここの・つき)

4. Which of the following does not belong with the others?

- a. 十
- b. 九
- c. 六
- d. 右

5. Which is the correct reading of 早い?

- a. **aru·i** (ある·い)
- b. **maru·i** (まる·い)
- c. **haya·i** (はや·い)
- d. **ara·i** (あら·い)

E. Please match the following compounds and words to their meanings and pronunciations.

- | | | |
|-------|--------------------|---------------------------------|
| 1. 六月 | a. Rapid speaking | 1. ROKU·GATSU
(ロク・ガツ) |
| 2. 中国 | b. Ulterior motive | 2. JO·Ō
(ジョ・オウ) |
| 3. 早口 | c. Queen | 3. GO·JŪ
(ゴ・ジュウ) |
| 4. 五十 | d. Early spring | 4. migi·ue
(みぎ・うえ) |
| 5. 中米 | e. Upper right | 5. SŌ·SHUN
(ソウ・シュン) |
| 6. 女王 | f. Fifty | 6. CHŪ·GOKU
(チュウ・ゴク) |
| 7. 上下 | g. June | 7. CHŪ·BEI
(チュウ・ベイ) |
| 8. 早春 | h. High and low | 8. shita·gokoro |

9. 下心 i. Central America

10. 右上 j. China

(した・ごころ)

9. **JŌ·GE**

(ジョウ・ゲ)

10. **haya·kuchi**

(はや・くち)

CHAPTER 3 (KANJI 41-60)

KANJI 41

京 CAPITAL

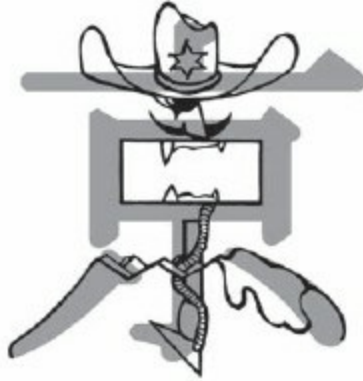
'	一	亡	市	古	亨	京	京	
BUILDING THIS KANJI								
Police 一 + Mouth (vampire) 口(8) + Small 小(20) = 京								

MEANING

Think of “capital” in the sense of a large metropolis. Though it’s not the most common of characters, it is useful to learn this kanji because of its appearance in the compound for Tokyo and other cities.

REMEMBERING THIS KANJI

The CAPITAL can be a pretty intimidating place if you don’t know it, and as a police officer here I’m always having to help folks with directions. Even **vampires**, who normally wouldn’t go near anyone in a **police** uniform, come up to me now and then. It’s not surprising, I suppose, that they’re overwhelmed by all the buildings and traffic after having come from such **small** Transylvanian villages. But then, it’s only natural that everyone – **vampires** included – feels a bit **small** in the CAPITAL.



COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Common **ON** reading: **KYŌ** (キョウ)

Common **kun** reading: none

Create your **on-yomi** keyword and enter it in the table at the back of the book. After that, write your sentence to remember the **on-yomi** reading in the box below.

--

LESS COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Less common **ON** reading: **KEI** (ケイ)

Less common **kun** reading: none

COMMON WORDS AND COMPOUNDS		
上京	upper + capital = <i>come/go to Tokyo</i>	JŌ·KYŌ ジョウ・キョウ
東京	east + capital = <i>Tokyo</i>	TŌ·KYŌ トウ・キョウ

SAMPLE SENTENCE

中山さん は 上京 しました。

Naka·yama-san wa JŌ·KYŌ shimashita.

Nakayama-san went to Tokyo

= *Nakayama-san went to Tokyo.*

WRITING PRACTICE					

KANJI 42

見 SEE

丨	冂	冂	月	目	見	見		
BUILDING THIS KANJI								
Eye (Cyclops) 目 (15) + Ballet 儿 = 見								

MEANING

See/Watch. The idea of “show” can also be expressed. Make sure you notice the difference between this kanji and “貝” (Entry [21](#)).

REMEMBERING THIS KANJI

“I’m tired of living a lie,” said the **Cyclops**, throwing down his club before emerging in a tutu. “People need to **SEE** me for who I really am. They need to **SEE** I’m not some slob who lounges around belching in a cave littered with sailor bones. They need to **SEE** the truth: that I...am a **ballerina!**”



COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Common **ON** reading: **KEN** (ケン)

Common **kun** reading: **mi** (み)

Expect to use the **kun-yomi** when this kanji appears in the first position. The **on-yomi** occurs more often in the second.

kun-yomi suggestion: “mean”

Write your sentence to remember the readings below.

LESS COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Less common **ON** reading: none

Less common **kun** reading: none

COMMON WORDS AND COMPOUNDS		
見える (intr)	<i>to be visible</i>	mi ·eru み・える
見る(tr)	<i>to see; to watch</i>	mi ·ru み・る
見せる(tr)	<i>to show (something)</i>	mi ·seru み・せる
見上げる	see + upper = <i>to look up (to/at)</i>	mi a·geru み あ・げる
月見	moon + see = <i>moon viewing</i>	tsuki· mi つき・み
見失う	see + lose = <i>to lose sight of</i>	mi ushina·u み うしな・う
外見	outside + see = <i>external appearance</i>	GAI · KEN ガイ・ケン

SAMPLE SENTENCE

= *A small tree is visible on top of the mountain.*

[illegible]

KANJI 43

止 STOP

丨	乚	丨	止					
BUILDING THIS KANJI Good Figure Skater 乚 + Pole 丨 + One (bottom of a bun) 一(3) = 止								

MEANING

All senses of the meaning “stop”. Take care with the stroke sequence of this kanji; the components should be written in the order shown above.

REMEMBERING THIS KANJI

“STOP! STOP!” the audience screamed.

It was horrible. The **good figure skater’s** posture was perfect, she was skating as if on the **bottom of a bun**, yet was oblivious to the **pole** sticking out of the ice in front of her. To be sure, no one could figure out what a **pole** was doing there in the first place, but no matter; the story must **STOP** here, as what happened next is too painful to relate.



COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Common **ON** reading: **SHI** (シ)

Common **kun** reading: **to** (と)

Remember to use the **on-yomi** keyword for **SHI** that you applied to the kanji “四” (Entry 10). Note also how the **kunyomi** can become voiced when it is used (as in the fourth and fifth examples) in second position, something that occurs frequently with this kanji.

kun-yomi suggestion: “total”

Create your **on-yomi** keyword and enter it in the table at the back of the book. After that, write your sentence to remember the **on-yomi** and **kun-yomi** readings in the box below.

--

LESS COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Less common **ON** reading: none

Less common **kun** reading: none

COMMON WORDS AND COMPOUNDS		
止まる (intr)	<i>to stop</i>	to ·maru と・まる
止める (tr)	<i>to stop (an object)</i>	to ·meru と・める
中止	middle + stop = <i>discontinue</i>	CHŪ · SHI チュウ・シ
立ち止まる	stand + stop = <i>to stand still</i>	ta ·chi do ·maru た・ち ど・まる
車止め	car + stop = <i>closed to vehicles</i>	kuruma do ·me くるま ど・め

SAMPLE SENTENCE

こちら に 止まって 下さい。

kochira ni to·matte kuda·sai.

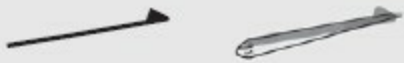
here stop please

= *Please stop here.*

WRITING PRACTICE

COMPONENT 44

COMET



Much like a wandering comet, our friend can appear in a variety of locations: as a slanted or curved line (as opposed to the horizontal “one”) on top of a character, at the bottom, or right through the middle. One thing worth keeping in mind is that you should always draw this component from its head to its tail (i.e., in this case, from left to right).

KANJI 44

七 SEVEN

一	七							
BUILDING THIS KANJI Comet 一 + Hook 乚 = 七								

MEANING

Seven. Only two strokes here, but they should be written as the components are listed.

REMEMBERING THIS KANJI

Using a **comet** as his guide, Captain **Hook** sailed the **SEVEN** seas.



COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Common **ON** reading: **SHICHI** (シチ)

Common **kun** reading: **nana** (なな)

Note the mix of **on** and **kun** readings in the fourth and fifth examples.

kun-yomi suggestion: “**Nana**”

Create your **on-yomi** keyword and enter it in the table at the back of the book. After that, write your sentence to remember the **on-yomi** and **kun-yomi** readings in the box below.

LESS COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Less common **ON** reading: none

Less common **kun** reading: **nano** (なの)

This reading appears with only one word (any guesses?): 七 日 [**nano·ka** (なの・か)] “the seventh day of the month”.

COMMON WORDS AND COMPOUNDS		
七	seven	SHICHI

		シチ
七つ	seven (general counter)	nana•tsu なな・つ
七月	seven + moon (month) = July	SHICHI•GATSU シチ・ガツ
十七	ten + seven = seventeen	JŪ•nana ジュウ・なな
七十	seven + ten = seventy	nana•JŪ なな・ジュウ
七時	seven + time = seven o'clock	SHICHI•JI シチ・ジ

SAMPLE SENTENCE

高木さん が 七月 に 中米 から 来ます。

Taka•gi-san ga SHICHI•GATSU ni CHŪ•BEI kara ki•masu.

Takagi-san July Central America will come

= *Takagi-san will come from Central America in July.*

WRITING PRACTICE

KANJI 45

少 FEW

亅	勹	小	少					
BUILDING THIS KANJI								
Small 小(20) + Comet 一 = 少								

MEANING

Few/Little (in terms of quantity).

REMEMBERING THIS KANJI

“That’s not true,” said the **comet**. “I mean, let’s face it: I’m **small**, and have only a **FEW** opportunities to meet others. Everyone knows a planet because of its size and where it lives, but I move all over the place; that’s why I have so **FEW** friends. It’s got nothing to do with my tail leaving a mess on people’s carpets.”



COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Common **ON** reading: **SHŌ** (シ ヨ ウ)

Common **kun** readings: **suku** (す く); **suko** (す こ)

SHŌ will appear in compounds. **Suku** and **suko** are only found in the first and second examples below. Note the special symbol in example three; Japanese uses this to indicate that a kanji is repeated.

kun-yomi suggestion: “scooter”; “scold”

Create your **on-yomi** keyword and enter it in the table at the back of the book. After that, write your sentence to remember the **on-yomi** and **kun-yomi** readings in the box below.

--

LESS COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Less common **ON** reading: none

Less common **kun** reading: none

COMMON WORDS AND COMPOUNDS		
少ない	<i>few</i>	suku·nai すく·ない
少し	<i>a little; a few</i>	suko·shi すこ·し
少々	few + few = <i>a little</i>	SHŌ·SHŌ ショウ・ショウ
少女	few + woman = <i>girl</i>	SHŌ·JO ショウ・ジョ
少年	few + year = <i>boy</i>	SHŌ·NEN ショウ・ネン
最少	most + few = <i>fewest</i>	SAI·SHŌ サイ・ショウ

SAMPLE SENTENCE

--

この 家 に は 物 が 少 ない。

kono ie ni wa mono ga suku·nai.

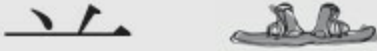
this house thing few

= *There are few things in this house.*

WRITING PRACTICE					

COMPONENT 46

SNOWBOARD



KANJI 46

南 SOUTH

一	十	卅	𠂔	𠂔	𠂔	𠂔	𠂔	𠂔
BUILDING THIS KANJI								
Ten (scarecrow) 十(28) + Gorilla 𠂔 + Snowboard 𠂔 +								
Ten (scarecrow) 十(28) = 南								

MEANING

South.

REMEMBERING THIS KANJI

Stepchildren can often be a problem. The **gorilla** knew this, of course, when she married the **scarecrow**, for all the **scarecrow's** son wanted to do was **snowboard**. Because of this, there was a predictable response when the **gorilla** suggested they travel **SOUTH** for their vacation.

"I don't want to go **SOUTH**," said Junior, pouting. "How can I **snowboard** there?"

"Now don't be like that, son," said his father. "You know **gorillas** like warm weather. We're going **SOUTH**, and that's all there is to it."

Junior said nothing to this, but the **gorilla** knew very well what he was thinking: "I wish Dad had married the polar bear."



COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Common **ON** reading: **NAN** (ナン)

Common **kun** reading: **minami** (みなみ)

kun-yomi suggestion: “**mean a meal**”

Create your **on-yomi** keyword and enter it in the table at the back of the book. After that, write your sentence to remember the **on-yomi** and **kun-yomi** readings in the box below.

LESS COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Less common **ON** reading: none

Less common **kun** reading: none

COMMON WORDS AND COMPOUNDS		
南	<i>south</i>	minami みなみ
南口	south + mouth = <i>south exit/entrance</i>	minami-guchi みなみ・ぐち
南米	south + rice (America) = <i>South America</i>	NAN·BEI

		ナン・ベイ
最南	most + south = <i>southernmost</i>	SAI・NAN サイ・ナン
南西	south + west = <i>southwest</i>	NAN・SEI ナン・セイ
南東	south + east = <i>southeast</i>	NAN・TŌ ナン・トウ

SAMPLE SENTENCE

バスターミナル の 南口 で 会いましょう。

basutāminaru no minami-guchi de a-imashō.

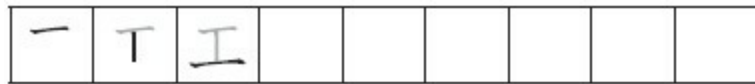
bus terminal south entrance let's meet

= *Let's meet at the south entrance of the bus terminal.*

WRITING PRACTICE					

KANJI 47

工 CRAFT

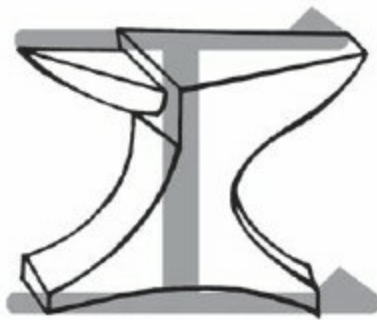


MEANING

Have in mind the ideas of construction and manufacturing when you see this kanji; it's a versatile character that encompasses everything from handicrafts to industrial products. When found at the end of a compound (as in the final example below), this kanji can take on the meaning of “worker”, and usually implies a person engaged in some type of manual labor.

REMEMBERING THIS KANJI

There's no better symbol for CRAFT than an anvil.



COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Common **ON** reading: **KŌ** (コウ)

Common **kun** reading: none

A final reminder about our major timesaving shortcut: your keyword for **KŌ** in this sentence will be the one you have entered in the **on-yomi** table, and that you have already applied to the kanji “口” (Entry 8). Create your **on-**

yomi keyword and enter it in the table at the back of the book. After that, write your sentence to remember the **on-yomi** reading in the box below.

--

LESS COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Less common **ON** reading: **KU** (ク)

Less common **kun** reading: none

COMMON WORDS AND COMPOUNDS		
人工	person + craft = <i>artificial</i>	JIN·KŌ ジン・コウ
人工林	person + craft + grove = <i>planted forest</i>	JIN·KŌ·RIN ジン・コウ・リン
工学	craft + study = <i>engineering</i>	KŌ·GAKU コウ・ガク
工学士	craft + study + gentleman = <i>Bachelor of Engineering</i>	KŌ·GAKU·SHI コウ・ガク・シ
刀工	sword + craft = <i>swordmaker</i>	TŌ·KŌ トウ・コウ

SAMPLE SENTENCE

これは人工の島ですね。

kore wa JIN·KŌ no shima desu ne.

this artificial island isn't it

= *This is an artificial island, isn't it?*

WRITING PRACTICE					

KANJI 48

左 LEFT

一	ナ	左	左	左				
BUILDING THIS KANJI								
Superhero ナ + Craft 工(47) = 左								

MEANING

Left/Left-hand side. Take note: the writing order of the first two lines differs from that of Entries 35 and 36 (“右” and “有”).

REMEMBERING THIS KANJI

Craft workers are traditionally **LEFT** wing, and when united can neutralize even a **superhero**, as the illustration makes clear.



COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Common **ON** reading: none

Common **kun** reading: **hidari** (ひだり)

kun-yomi suggestion: “**heed a reef**”

Create a sentence to remember the **kun-yomi** reading below.

LESS COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Less common **ON** reading: **SA** (サ)

Less common **kun** reading: none

COMMON WORDS AND COMPOUNDS		
左	<i>left</i>	hidari ひだり
左回り	left + rotate = <i>counter-clockwise</i>	hidari mawa·ri ひだり まわ·り
左上	left + upper = <i>upper left</i>	hidari·ue ひだり·うえ
左下	left + lower = <i>lower left</i>	hidari·shita ひだり·した
左手	left + hand = <i>left hand</i>	hidari·te ひだり·て
左足	left + leg = <i>left leg</i>	hidari·ashi ひだり·あし

SAMPLE SENTENCE

あ の 人 の 左 手 を 見 て 下 さ い 。

ano hito no hidari·te o mi·te kuda·sai.

that person left hand see please

= *Please watch that person's left hand.*

WRITING PRACTICE

[illegible]

KANJI 49

高 TALL

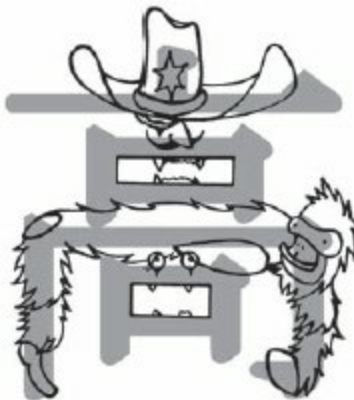
丶	一	亅	冂	古	𠂔	高	高	高
高								
BUILDING THIS KANJI Police 冂 + Mouth (vampire) 𠂔 (8) + Gorilla 𠂔 + Mouth (vampire) 𠂔 (8) = 高								

MEANING

Tall/High/Best. This kanji is also used to express the idea of “expensive”.

REMEMBERING THIS KANJI

The story of King Kong the **gorilla** is well known. What most people don't realize, however, is that it is based on an obscure Transylvanian legend. In it, the angry **gorilla** kidnaps a baby **vampire** and climbs the **TALLEST** hut in the land. Unfortunately for him, the baby's father is none other than Dracula; the famous **vampire** dons his **police** hat (he is, for reasons yet to be understood, a part-time deputy in this legend) and flies to the rescue. Even today there are inhabitants in the region who hold this story to be true, although most people, to be sure, consider it a **TALL** tale.



COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Common **ON** reading: **KŌ** (コウ)

Common **kun** reading: **taka** (たか)

Note the intransitive/transitive verb pair below, and how the **kun-yomi** becomes voiced in the sixth example. This often occurs with 高 when it appears in the second or third position.

kun-yomi suggestion: “**tack** apples”

Create your **on-yomi** keyword and enter it in the table at the back of the book. After that, write your sentence to remember the **on-yomi** and **kun-yomi** readings in the box below.

--

LESS COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Less common **ON** reading: none

Less common **kun** reading: none

COMMON WORDS AND COMPOUNDS		
高い	<i>tall; expensive</i>	taka·i たか・い
高まる (intr)	<i>to rise</i>	taka·maru たか・まる
高める (tr)	<i>to raise</i>	taka·meru たか・める
高山	tall + mountain = <i>alpine</i>	KŌ·ZAN コウ・ザン
高校	tall + school = <i>high school</i>	KŌ·KŌ コウ・コウ

円高	circle (yen) + tall = <i>strong yen</i>	EN・daka エン・だか
最高	most + tall = <i>highest; the best</i>	SAI・KŌ サイ・コウ

SAMPLE SENTENCE

あの 高い 山 は 美しい です ね。

ano taka·i yama wa utsuku·shii desu ne.

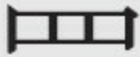
that tall mountain beautiful isn't it

= *That tall mountain is beautiful, isn't it?*

WRITING PRACTICE					

COMPONENT 50

BANDAGE



KANJI 50

買 BUY

一	𠂇	𠂈	𠂉	𠂊	𠂋	𠂌	𠂍	𠂎
𠂏	買	買						
BUILDING THIS KANJI Bandage 罨 + Shellfish 貝 (21) = 買								

MEANING

Buy.

REMEMBERING THIS KANJI

As an animal rights activist, I regularly **BUY shellfish** in order to set them free. It's heartbreaking for me to go into a store and find them suffering in the tanks, their shells chipped and scarred. I **BUY** as many as possible, naturally, and do my best to help heal them by placing **bandages** on their wounds. But there are so many needing rescue... My only wish is for others to join the cause; after all, I can't **BUY** all the **shellfish** in the world.



COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Common **ON** reading: none

Common **kun** reading: **ka** (か)

As nice as it is to have only one main reading to remember for this kanji, mention must be made of a particular quirk in written Japanese that occurs when certain verb stems are used to form nouns. The easiest way to understand this is by comparing the second and third examples below. As you can see, the noun in example 3 has “lost” the *i* (い) that would be present if the kanji were in its **-masu** verb form, **kaimasu**. (買います). It is, in a sense, implied, based on the **hiragana** ending after 上. Unfortunately, there are no hard and fast rules for this aspect of the language, and it can be frustrating when such words are encountered. Our example, for instance, can be seen variously as “買い上げ”, “買上げ”, or even “買上” in different dictionaries!

It is worth keeping in mind, however, that not many kanji present such difficulties, and that once a “primary” word (usually the **-masu** form of a verb) has been learned, its related nouns will be easily recognized. Another consolation should be the following: by having reached the stage where you are dealing with such intricacies of the language, you are navigating among the deepest levels of written Japanese.

kun-yomi suggestion: “cap”

Create your sentence to remember the **kun-yomi** reading in the box below.

LESS COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Less common **ON** reading: **BAI** (バイ)

Less common **kun** reading: none

COMMON WORDS AND COMPOUNDS		
買う	<i>to buy</i>	ka·u か・う
買い上げる	buy + upper = <i>to buy (up/out)</i>	ka·i a·geru か・い あ・げる
買上げ	buy + upper = <i>a purchase</i>	kai a·ge かい あ・げ
買い物	buy + thing = <i>shopping</i>	ka·i mono か・い もの
買い入れる	buy + enter = <i>to stock up on</i>	ka·i i·reru か・い い・れる
買い手	buy + hand = <i>buyer</i>	ka·i te か・い て

SAMPLE SENTENCE

山中さんは高い物を買うつもりです。

Yama·naka-san wa taka·i mono o ka·u tsumori desu.

Yamanaka-san expensive thing buy plans

= *Yamanaka-san plans to buy something expensive.*

KANJI 51

百 HUNDRED

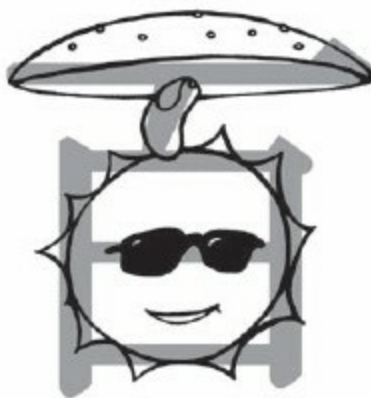
一	丿	𠂇	𠂇	𠂇	𠂇			
BUILDING THIS KANJI One (top of a bun) 一(3) + White 白(7) = 百								

MEANING

Hundred. In a few instances, the idea of “many” is conveyed.

REMEMBERING THIS KANJI

A recent survey found that **ONE HUNDRED** percent of **white bun tops** are **white**. **ONE HUNDRED** percent! Rarely is scientific research so conclusive.



COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Common **ON** reading: **HYAKU** (ヒヤク)

Common **kun** reading: none

The thing to watch for here is how **HYAKU** changes phonetically with different numbers. Note also the **kun-yomi** in examples four and seven.

Create your **on-yomi** keyword and enter it in the table at the back of the book. After that, write your sentence to remember the **on-yomi** reading in the box below.

--

LESS COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Less common **ON** reading: none

Less common **kun** reading: none

COMMON WORDS AND COMPOUNDS		
百	<i>one hundred</i>	HYAKU ヒヤク
二百	two + hundred = <i>two hundred</i>	NI·HYAKU ニ・ヒヤク
三百	three + hundred = <i>three hundred</i>	SAN·BYAKU サン・ビヤク
四百	four + hundred = <i>four hundred</i>	yon·HYAKU よん・ヒヤク
五百	five + hundred = <i>five hundred</i>	GO·HYAKU ゴ・ヒヤク
六百	six + hundred = <i>six hundred</i>	ROP·PYAKU ロツ・ピヤク
七百	seven + hundred = <i>seven hundred</i>	nana·HYAKU なな・ヒヤク
八百	eight + hundred = <i>eight hundred</i>	HAP·PYAKU ハツ・ピヤク
九百	nine + hundred = <i>nine hundred</i>	KYŪ·HYAKU キュウ・ヒヤク

SAMPLE SENTENCE

肉 を 五百 グラム 買いました。

NIKU o GO·HYAKU guramu ka-imashita.

meat five hundred grams bought

= *(I) bought five hundred grams of meat.*

WRITING PRACTICE

KANJI 52

円 CIRCLE

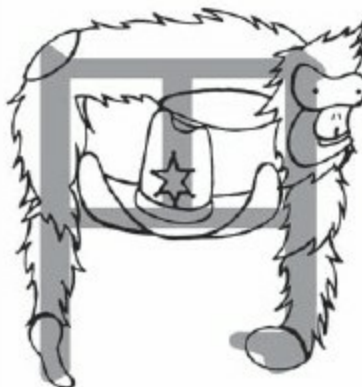
丨	冂	𠂇	円				
BUILDING THIS KANJI Gorilla 冂 + Police 𠂇 = 円							

MEANING

Circle/Round. This kanji is also used to denote the yen, Japan's currency. The connection originated from round oneyen coins.

REMEMBERING THIS KANJI

Every **gorilla** in the park hated the **ranger**, for his snide comments about their grooming habits were known to animals far and wide. It was not surprising, therefore, to hear that he had found himself surrounded by a **CIRCLE** of angry silverbacks on emerging from his tent one day. No one will know for certain what actually happened to the **ranger**, of course, because the **gorillas** **CIRCLED** their wagons and refused to cooperate with any investigation.



COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Common **ON** reading: **EN** (エン)

Common **kun** reading: **maru** (まる)

kun-yomi suggestion: “llama ruins”

Create your **on-yomi** keyword and enter it in the table at the back of the book. After that, write your sentence to remember the **on-yomi** and **kun-yomi** readings in the box below.

--

LESS COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Less common **ON** reading: none

Less common **kun** reading: none

COMMON WORDS AND COMPOUNDS		
円い	<i>circular</i>	maru·i まる·い
円高	yen + tall = <i>strong yen</i>	EN·daka エン·だか
二円	= <i>two yen</i> two + yen	NI·EN ニ·エン
半円	half + circle = <i>semicircle</i>	HAN·EN ハン·エン
円安	yen + ease = <i>weak yen</i>	EN·yasu エン·やす
円周	circle + around = <i>circumference</i>	EN·SHŪ エン·シュウ

SAMPLE SENTENCE

あの 子 は 百円 を なくした。

ano ko wa HYAKU·EN o nakushita.

that child one hundred yen lost

= *That child lost a hundred yen.*

WRITING PRACTICE					

KANJI 53

元 BASIS

一	二	テ	元					
BUILDING THIS KANJI Two 二(4) + Ballet 儿 = 元								

MEANING

This character expresses the idea of a basis or original state of something. When used with its **kun-yomi** before words such as “president”, it can be translated as “ex-”, or “former”.

REMEMBERING THIS KANJI

Two ballet legs are the **BASIS** of any good performance of Swan Lake. I mean, no one likes to be rude, but every time I watch a one-legged swan take on the role of Princess Odette...well, the very **BASIS** of the play is called into question for me.



COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Common **ON** readings: **GEN** (ゲン); **GAN** (ガン)

Common **kun** reading: **moto** (もと)

GAN occurs only in the first position with a few common words.

kun-yomi suggestion: “**motocross**”

Create your **on-yomi** keyword and enter it in the table at the back of the book. After that, write your sentence to remember the **on-yomi** and **kun-yomi** readings in the box below.

--

LESS COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Less common **ON** reading: none

Less common **kun** reading: none

COMMON WORDS AND COMPOUNDS		
元々	basis + basis = <i>from the first</i>	moto·moto もと・もと
元日	basis + sun (day) = <i>New Year's Day</i>	GAN·JITSU ガン・ジツ
手元	hand + basis = <i>at hand</i>	te·moto て・もと
元気	basis + spirit = <i>high spirits</i>	GEN·KI ゲン・キ
火元	fire + basis = <i>origin of a fire</i>	hi·moto ひ・もと
元来	basis + come = <i>by nature</i>	GAN·RAI ガン・ライ

SAMPLE SENTENCE

元日 なので 人が 少ない。

GAN·JITSU na no de hito ga suku·nai.

New Year's Day because person few
= *It's New Year's Day, so there aren't many people.*

[illegible][illegible]

KANJI 54

首 NECK

丶	丿	一	ㄥ	𠂆	𠂆	首	首	首
BUILDING THIS KANJI								
Snowboard ㄥ + Self 自 (33) = 首								

MEANING

Neck in its physical sense, as well as the ideas of leader or chief.

REMEMBERING THIS KANJI

His sense of **self** became so wrapped up in his **snowboard** that things started getting weird. After all, carrying a **snow-board** on your **NECK** at the ski slope is one thing, but wearing it around your **NECK** at work is another. When this started happening, even his colleagues in the office were concerned enough to seek advice.

“It all has to do with his sense of **self** worth,” said the company psychologist. “What with the recent demotion, his **self** confidence is shaken. He’ll get over it eventually.”



COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Common **ON** reading: **SHU** (シ ュ)

Common **kun** reading: **kubi** (く び)

kun-yomi suggestion: “Scooby doo”

Create your **on-yomi** keyword and enter it in the table at the back of the book. After that, write your sentence to remember the **on-yomi** and **kun-yomi** readings in the box below.

--

LESS COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Less common **ON** reading: none

Less common **kun** reading: none

COMMON WORDS AND COMPOUNDS		
首	<i>neck</i>	kubi く び
自首	self + neck = <i>surrender</i>	JI-SHU ジ・シュ
手首	hand + neck = <i>wrist</i>	te-kubi て・く び
足首	leg + neck = <i>ankle</i>	ashi-kubi あし・く び

SAMPLE SENTENCE

高木さん は 首 に 水 を かけました。

Taka-gi-san wa kubi ni mizu o kakemashita.

Takagi-san neck water put

= *Takagi-san put some water on his neck.*

WRITING PRACTICE					

KANJI 55

歩 WALK

1	フ	止	止	止	止	止	止	止
BUILDING THIS KANJI								
Stop 止(43) + Few 少(45) = 歩								

MEANING

Walking/Step/Pace. A secondary meaning of “rate” (as used in a financial sense) is found only with **BU** (ブ), a less-common **on-yomi**.

REMEMBERING THIS KANJI

My **WALKING** style is a little unorthodox in that I'll **stop**, take a **few** steps, then **stop** once more. It can be frustrating for those **WALKING** with me, I suppose, for what with **stopping** every **few** steps, I rarely make it far beyond my front door.



COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Common **ON** reading: **HO** (ホ)

Common **kun** reading: **aru** (ある)

kun-yomi suggestion: “a route”

Create your **on-yomi** keyword and enter it in the table at the back of the book. After that, write your sentence to remember the **on-yomi** and **kun-yomi** readings in the box below.

--

LESS COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Less common **ON** readings: **BU** (ブ); **FU** (フ)

Less common **kun** reading: **ayu** (あゆ)

COMMON WORDS AND COMPOUNDS		
歩く	<i>to walk</i>	aru·ku ある・く
一步	one + walk = <i>one step</i>	IP·PO イッ・ポ
歩き回る	walk + rotate = <i>to ramble about</i>	aru·ki mawa·ru ある・き まわ・る
歩道	walk + road = <i>sidewalk</i>	HO·DŌ ホ・ドウ
歩行	walk + go = <i>walking</i>	HO·KŌ ホ・コウ
歩行者	walk + go + individual = <i>pedestrian</i>	HO·KŌ·SHA ホ・コウ・シャ

SAMPLE SENTENCE

家 から 山 まで 歩きました。

ie kara yama made aru·kimashita.

house from mountain until walked

= *(We) walked from the house to the mountain.*

WRITING PRACTICE

[illegible]

KANJI 56

子 CHILD

マ	了	子						
---	---	---	--	--	--	--	--	--

MEANING

Child. As seen in the final compound below, this character can also be used to suggest something small. No story required.



COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Common **ON** reading: **SHI** (シ)

Common **kun** reading: **ko** (コ)

Interestingly, both of these readings can at times become voiced (pronounced **JI** and **go**) in the second position, as seen in the third examples of this entry and that of Entry 167. Japanese parents often choose this kanji for a suffix when naming their children (eg. **Aki•ko**); it is read “**SHI**” in the case of males, and “**ko**” when applied to females.

kun-yomi suggestion: “coat”

Create your **on-yomi** keyword and enter it in the table at the back of the book. After that, write your sentence to remember the **on-yomi** and **kun-**

yomi readings in the box below.

--

LESS COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Less common **ON** reading: **SU** (ス)

Less common **kun** reading: none

COMMON WORDS AND COMPOUNDS		
子	<i>child</i>	ko こ
女子	woman + child = <i>women's</i>	JO·SHI ジョ・シ
王子	king + child = <i>prince</i>	Ō·JI オウ・ジ
男子	man + child = <i>men's</i>	DAN·SHI ダン・シ
子牛	child + cow = <i>calf</i>	ko·ushi こ・うし
電子	electric + child = <i>electron</i>	DEN·SHI デン・シ

SAMPLE SENTENCE

五月 に 女王 と 王子 が 米国 へ 行きました。

GO·GATSU ni JO·Ō と Ō·JI ga BEI·KOKU e i·kimashita.

May queen prince America went

= *In May, the queen and prince went to America.*

WRITING PRACTICE					

KANJI 57

好 LIKE

く	く	女	好	好	好			
BUILDING THIS KANJI								
Woman 女(16) + Child 子(56) = 好								

MEANING

To like/Good/Favorable...nothing but positive feelings are associated with this gentle character!

REMEMBERING THIS KANJI

This is one of those kanji that is so logically constructed as to need no story at all.



COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Common **ON** reading: **KŌ** (コウ)

Common **kun** reading: **su** (す)

The **kun-yomi** is often voiced when in the second position (becoming “zu”), as below in examples three and four.

kun-yomi suggestion: “soon”

Create your **on-yomi** keyword and enter it in the table at the back of the book. After that, write your sentence to remember the **on-yomi** and **kun-yomi** readings in the box below.

--

LESS COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Less common **ON** reading: none

Less common **kun** reading: **kono** (この)

COMMON WORDS AND COMPOUNDS		
好き	<i>like</i>	su·ki す·き
大好き	large + like = <i>to really like</i>	DAI su·ki ダイ す·き
人好き	person + like = <i>amiability</i>	hito zu·ki ひと ず·き
話し好き	speak + like = <i>talkative</i>	hana·shi zu·ki はな·し ず·き
友好	friend + like = <i>friendship</i>	YŪ·KŌ ユウ·コウ
同好	= <i>same tastes</i> same + like	DŌ·KŌ ドウ·コウ

SAMPLE SENTENCE

山口さんはあそこの女の人が大好きです。

Yama·guchi-san wa asoko no onna no hito ga DAI su·ki desu.

Yamaguchi-san over there woman person really likes = <i>Yamaguchi-san really likes that woman over there.</i>
--

WRITING PRACTICE

[illegible]

KANJI 58

古 OLD

一	十	𠂇	古	古				
BUILDING THIS KANJI								
Ten (scarecrow) 十(28) + Mouth (vampire) 口(8) = 古								

MEANING

Old/Ancient/Antique.

REMEMBERING THIS KANJI

Even though **vampires** never die, they do grow **OLD** and suffer the same deterioration of mental faculties as the rest of us. The **scarecrow** can attest to this; as he lives in a field next to an **OLD** folks home, he'll often look down to find a elderly **vampire** bravely fastening its gums onto his ankle. It's more of a nuisance for him than anything, of course, but he's always nice enough to show respect for those **OLDER** by acting scared.



COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Common **ON** reading: **KO** (コ)

Common **kun** reading: **furu** (ふる)

Remember that your **on-yomi** keyword here will be different from that used in the preceding entry (for 好).

kun-yomi suggestion: “**who** **rues**...”

Create your **on-yomi** keyword and enter it in the table at the back of the book. After that, write your sentence to remember the **on-yomi** and **kun-yomi** readings in the box below.

--

LESS COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Less common **ON** reading: none

Less common **kun** reading: none

COMMON WORDS AND COMPOUNDS		
古い	<i>old</i>	furu·i ふる·い
中古	middle + old = <i>secondhand</i>	CHŪ·KO チュウ·コ
最古	most + old = <i>oldest</i>	SAI·KO サイ·コ
古語	old + words = <i>archaic word</i>	KO·GO コ·ゴ
古来	old + come = <i>time honored</i>	KO·RAI コ·ライ
古里	old + hamlet = <i>the old hometown</i>	furu·sato ふる·さと

SAMPLE SENTENCE

山下さんは中古の品をよく買います。

Yamashita-san secondhand goods often buys

= *Yamashita-san often buys secondhand goods.*

[illegible]

KANJI 59

火 FIRE

丶	丶	ノ	火					
---	---	---	---	--	--	--	--	--

MEANING

This beautifully simple character encompasses all things to do with fire. No story required.



COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Common **ON** reading: **KA** (カ)

Common **kun** reading: **hi** (ヒ)

The **kun-yomi** is always voiced (becomes **bi**) when in the second position, as seen here in example five.

kun-yomi suggestion: “**heat**”

Create your **on-yomi** keyword and enter it in the table at the back of the book. After that, write your sentence to remember the **on-yomi** and **kun-yomi** readings in the box below.

LESS COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Less common **ON** reading: none

Less common **kun** reading: **ho** (ほ)

COMMON WORDS AND COMPOUNDS		
火	<i>fire</i>	hi ひ
火元	fire + basis = <i>origin of a fire</i>	hi·moto ひ・もと
大火	large + fire = <i>conflagration</i>	TAI·KA タイ・カ
火山	fire + mountain = <i>volcano</i>	KA·ZAN カ・ザン
花火	flower + fire = <i>fireworks</i>	hana·bi はな・び
火曜日	fire + day of the week + sun (day) = <i>Tuesday</i>	KA·YŌ·bi カ・ヨウ・び
火星	fire + star = <i>Mars (planet)</i>	KA·SEI カ・セイ

SAMPLE SENTENCE

日本には火山があります。

NI·HON ni wa KA·ZAN ga arimasu.

Japan volcano are

= *There are volcanoes in Japan.*

WRITING PRACTICE					

COMPONENT 60

RUNNING CHICKEN



KANJI 60

冬 WINTER

ノ	夕	夕	冬	冬				
BUILDING THIS KANJI Running Chicken 夕 + Jelly Bean 丿 + Jelly Bean 丿 = 冬								

MEANING

Winter.

REMEMBERING THIS KANJI

WINTER is such a drab time of year. To add a bit of color to the season, therefore, I enjoy strapping bags of **jelly beans** to **chickens running** in the yard, as the **beans** spill out and make everything more cheerful. It's a mystery to me why more people don't do this; even the grayest WINTER would be tolerable if everyone followed my lead.



COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Common **ON** reading: **TŌ** (トウ)

Common **kun** reading: **fuyu** (ふゆ)

kun-yomi suggestion: “**who** uses...”

Create your **on-yomi** keyword and enter it in the table at the back of the book. After that, write your sentence to remember the **on-yomi** and **kun-yomi** readings in the box below.

LESS COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Less common **ON** reading: none

Less common **kun** reading: none

COMMON WORDS AND COMPOUNDS		
冬	winter	fuyu ふゆ
冬休み	winter + rest = <i>winter vacation</i>	fuyu yasu·mi ふゆ やす·み
立冬	stand + winter = <i>first day of winter</i>	RIT·TŌ リッ・トウ

冬物	winter + thing = <i>winter clothing</i>	fuyu·mono ふゆ・もの
冬空	winter + empty (sky) = <i>winter sky</i>	fuyu·zora ふゆ・ぞら

SAMPLE SENTENCE

冬 にな る と スイス の 山 は 美しい。

fuyu ni naru to suisu no yama wa utsuku·shii.

winter becomes Switzerland mountain beautiful

= *The mountains of Switzerland are beautiful in winter.*

WRITING PRACTICE					

CHAPTER 3 REVIEW EXERCISES

A. Please match the following kanji to their meanings.

- | | |
|-------|------------|
| 1. 高 | a. Few |
| 2. 止 | b. Hundred |
| 3. 古 | c. Basis |
| 4. 百 | d. Tall |
| 5. 南 | e. Winter |
| 6. 京 | f. Left |
| 7. 元 | g. Capital |
| 8. 左 | h. Stop |
| 9. 少 | i. South |
| 10. 冬 | j. Old |

B. Please match the following meanings to their kanji, and these to their **on** or **kun-yomi**.

- | | | |
|-----------------------------|------|-----------------------|
| 1. Like (kun-yomi) | a. 歩 | 1. HO (ホ) |
| 2. Child | b. 火 | 2. ko (コ) |
| 3. Neck | c. 工 | 3. kubi (クビ) |
| 4. Craft | d. 首 | 4. ka (カ) |
| 5. Walk | e. 七 | 5. EN (エン) |
| 6. See | f. 子 | 6. SHICHI (シチ) |
| 7. Fire (kun-yomi) | g. 見 | 7. KŌ (コウ) |
| 8. Buy | h. 円 | 8. mi (ミ) |

9. Circle

i. 好

9. **hi** (ひ)

10. Seven

j. 買

10. **su** (す)

C. Please choose the best answer(s) to the following questions.

1. Which of the following readings apply to the kanji 南?

a. **NAN** (ナン)

b. **fuyu** (ふゆ)

c. **HYAKU** (ヒヤク)

d. **minami** (みなみ)

e. **hidari** (ひだり)

2. What is the worst thing you can hear someone say from behind while you're standing on a plank of a ship?

a. 子

b. 七

c. 好

d. 元

e. 歩

3. Which of the following readings apply to the kanji 高?

a. **hi** (ひ)

b. **GETSU** (ゲツ)

c. **KŌ** (コウ)

d. **taka** (たか)

e. **TAI** (タイ)

4. Which of the following readings apply to the kanji 元?

a. **GEN** (ゲン)

b. **moto** (もと)

- c. **furu** (ふる)
- d. **GAN** (ガン)
- e. **HAN** (ハン)

5. Which of the following readings apply to the kanji 少?

- a. **KŌ** (コウ)
- b. **SHŌ** (ショウ)
- c. **suko** (すこ)
- d. **suku** (すく)
- e. **to** (と)

D. Please choose the best answer to the following questions.

1. Which is the correct reading of 少し?

- a. **mawa·shi** (まわし)
- b. **suko·shi** (すこし)
- c. **de·shi** (でし)
- d. **suku·shi** (すくし)

2. Which kanji would precede 口 to form the compound for “volcanic crater”?

- a. 冬
- b. 火
- c. 左
- d. 首
- e. 止

3. Which is the correct reading of 古い?

- a. **furu·i** (ふるい)
- b. **ka·i** (かい)

- c. **yuru·i** (ゆる・い)
- d. **futo·i** (ふと・い)

4. Which of the following kanji has the most number of strokes?

- a. 見
- b. 好
- c. 南
- d. 歩
- e. 京

5. Which is the correct reading of 少ない?

- a. **aka·nai** (あか・ない)
- b. **to·nai** (と・ない)
- c. **aga·nai** (あが・ない)
- d. **suku·nai** (すく・ない)

E. Please match the following compounds and words to their meanings and pronunciations.

1. 南米

a. To really like

1. **CHŪ·SHI**
(チュウ・シ)

2. 中古

b. Secondhand

2. **JŌ·KYŌ**
(ジョウ・キョウ)

3. 上京

c. Semicircle

3. **JIN·KŌ**
(ジン・コウ)

4. 大火

d. South America

4. **CHŪ·KO**
(チュウ・コ)

5. 半円

e. Artificial

5. **IP·PO**
(イツ・ポ)

6. 中止

f. Discontinue

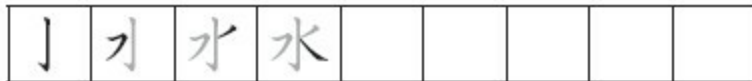
6. **NAN·BEI**

		(ナン・ベイ)
7. 一歩	g. Seven hundred	7. TAI·KA (タイ・カ)
8. 七百	h. Come/ Go to Tokyo	8. DAI su·ki (ダイ す・き)
9. 人工	i. One step	9. HAN·EN (ハン・エン)
10. 大好き	j. Conflagration	10. nana·HYAKU (なな・ヒャク)

CHAPTER 4 (KANJI 61-80)

KANJI 61

水 WATER



MEANING

Another gracefully balanced character, this one suggesting water. The “wavy” effect in the illustration will be easier to remember if you imagine the harpoon being pulled upward. No story required.



COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Common **ON** reading: SUI (スイ)

Common **kun** reading: mizu (みず)

kun-yomi suggestion: “make **me** zoom”

Create your **on-yomi** keyword and enter it in the table at the back of the

book. After that, write your sentence to remember the **on-yomi** and **kun-yomi** readings in the box below.

LESS COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Less common **ON** reading: none

Less common **kun** reading: none

COMMON WORDS AND COMPOUNDS		
水	<i>water</i>	mizu みず
水中	water + middle = <i>underwater; in the water</i>	SUI·CHŪ スイ・チュウ
下水	lower + water = <i>sewage</i>	GE·SUI ゲ・スイ
水玉	water + jewel = <i>drop of water</i>	mizu·tama みず・たま
水星	water + star = <i>Mercury (planet)</i>	SUI·SEI スイ・セイ
水曜日	water + day of the week + sun (day) = <i>Wednesday</i>	SUI·YŌ·bi スイ・ヨウ・び
水死	water + death = <i>drowning</i>	SUI·SHI スイ・シ

SAMPLE SENTENCE

あの ダム には 水 が ありますん。

ano DAMU ni wa mizu ga arimasen.

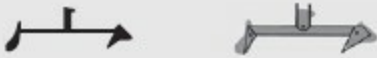
that dam water isn't

= *There is no water at that dam.*

WRITING PRACTICE					

COMPONENT 62

PINCERS



KANJI 62

安 EASE

丶	亻	宀	宀	安	安			
BUILDING THIS KANJI Pincers 𠂔 + Woman 女(16) = 安								

MEANING

The general sense is of “ease”, “peacefulness”, and “stability”. An important secondary meaning is “inexpensive”. In this regard, the kanji’s opposite is “高” (Entry [49](#)).

REMEMBERING THIS KANJI

Pincers have always allowed the legendary **women** of history to lead lives of **EASE**. Nefertiti and Cleopatra had **pincers** deposit them into cushiony boats on the Nile; Catherine the Great had **pincers** **EASE** her onto a bed strewn with sable... Even Joan of Arc, after a tiring day on the battlefield, would always have **pincers** set her gently into a bubble bath.



COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Common **ON** reading: **AN** (アン)

Common **kun** reading: **yasu** (やす)

kun-yomi suggestion: “try a suit”

Create your **on-yomi** keyword and enter it in the table at the back of the book. After that, write your sentence to remember the **on-yomi** and **kun-yomi** readings in the box below.

LESS COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Less common **ON** reading: none

Less common **kun** reading: none

COMMON WORDS AND COMPOUNDS		
安い	<i>easy; cheap</i>	yasu·i やす·い
円安	circle (yen) + ease = <i>weak yen</i>	EN·yasu エン·やす
安心	ease + heart = <i>peace of mind</i>	AN·SHIN アン·シン
安全	ease + complete	AN·ZEN

	= <i>safety</i>	アン・ゼン
不安	not + ease = <i>uneasiness</i>	FU・AN フ・アン
公安	public + ease = <i>public peace</i>	KŌ・AN コウ・アン

SAMPLE SENTENCE

安心 して 下さい。

AN・SHIN shite kuda・sai.

peace of mind do please

= *Please don't worry.*

WRITING PRACTICE

KANJI 63

力 STRENGTH

フ	力							
---	---	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

MEANING

Strength/Power/Force. No story required.



COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Common **ON** readings: **RYOKU** (リ ヨ ク); **RIKI** (リ キ)

Common **kun** reading: **chikara** (ちから)

RYOKU will be encountered far more often than **RIKI**; the **kun-yomi** is a common word on its own.

kun-yomi suggestion: “in my **cheek** a rat...”

Create your **on-yomi** keyword and enter it in the table at the back of the book. After that, write your sentence to remember the **on-yomi** and **kun-yomi** readings in the box below.

LESS COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Less common **ON** reading: none

Less common **kun** reading: none

COMMON WORDS AND COMPOUNDS		
力	<i>strength</i>	chikara ちから
全力	complete + strength = <i>all one's power</i>	ZEN·RYOKU ゼン・リョク
有力	have + strength = <i>powerful</i>	YŪ·RYOKU ユウ・リョク
水力	water + strength = <i>hydro power</i>	SUI·RYOKU スイ・リョク
火力	fire + strength = <i>thermal power</i>	KA·RYOKU カ・リョク
電力	electric + strength = <i>electric power</i>	DEN·RYOKU デン・リョク
力士	strength + gentleman = <i>sumo wrestler</i>	RIKI·SHI リキ・シ

SAMPLE SENTENCE

中山さんは車のビジネスでとても有力な人です。

Naka·yama-san wa kuruma no bijinesu de totemo YŪ·RYOKU na hito desu.

Nakayama-san car business very powerful person is

= *In the automotive business, Nakayama-san is a very powerful person.*

WRITING PRACTICE

KANJI 64

夏 SUMMER

一	𠂇	𠂇	𠂇	𠂇	𠂇	𠂇	𠂇	𠂇	𠂇
夏									
BUILDING THIS KANJI One (top of a bun) 一(3) + Self 自(33) + Running Chicken 𠂇 = 夏									

MEANING

Summer.

REMEMBERING THIS KANJI

When **SUMMER** rolls around I enjoy throwing parties, but like most farming folk, I don't stand on ceremony. After all, what with it being so darn hot in the **SUMMER**, the last thing I want to do is cook! So you'd better be prepared if you drop by. I'll give you the **top of a bun**, of course, but you'll be heading straight to the coop after that. "Go catch yourself a **running chicken**," I'll say. "This here's a **self-serve** party."



COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Common **ON** reading: **KA** (力)

Common **kun** reading: **natsu** (なつ)

kun-yomi suggestion: “**gnat soup**”

Create your **on-yomi** keyword and enter it in the table at the back of the book. After that, write your sentence to remember the **on-yomi** and **kun-yomi** readings in the box below.

--

LESS COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Less common **ON** reading: **GE** (ゲ)

Less common **kun** reading: none

COMMON WORDS AND COMPOUNDS		
夏	<i>summer</i>	natsu なつ
夏休み	summer + rest = <i>summer vacation</i>	natsu yasu·mi なつ やす·み
夏物	summer + thing = <i>summer clothing</i>	natsu·mono なつ·もの
立夏	stand + summer = <i>first day of summer</i>	RIK·KA リッ·カ

SAMPLE SENTENCE

この 夏 には 東京 へ 行きます。

kono natsu niwa TŌ·KYŌ e i·kimasu.

this summer Tokyo go

= (*We'll*) be going to Tokyo this summer.

WRITING PRACTICE					

KANJI 65

千 THOUSAND

一	二	千						
BUILDING THIS KANJI Comet 一 + Ten (scarecrow) 十(28) = 千								

MEANING

Thousand. Like the character for “hundred” (Entry 51), this kanji sometimes conveys a general idea of “many”.

REMEMBERING THIS KANJI

My favorite story in the “THOUSAND and One Nights” is the tale in which a comet on a THOUSAND-year journey has a chat with a **scarecrow**.

“What’s up?” he asks.

“Nothing much besides my getting sick of this view,” answers the **scarecrow**. “I must say, I’d sure love to take a trip like yours.”

“Well, why don’t you go, then?” says the **comet**, smiling.

“Remember: a journey of a THOUSAND miles starts with a single step.”

“Gee, thanks for that pearl of wisdom,” says the scarecrow sarcastically. “In case you haven’t noticed, I’m tied to a couple of boards here.”



COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Common **ON** reading: **SEN** (セン)

Common **kun** reading: none

As seen with the kanji “百”, note how **SEN** changes phonetically with different numbers, and how **kun-yomi** are used in examples four and seven.

Create your **on-yomi** keyword and enter it in the table at the back of the book. After that, write your sentence to remember the **on-yomi** reading in the box below.

LESS COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Less common **ON** reading: none

Less common **kun** reading: **chi** (ち)

COMMON WORDS AND COMPOUNDS		
千	one thousand	SEN セン
二千	two + thousand = <i>two thousand</i>	NI·SEN ニ・セン

三千	three + thousand = <i>three thousand</i>	SAN·ZEN サン・ゼン
四千	four + thousand = <i>four thousand</i>	yon·SEN よん・セン
五千	five + thousand = <i>five thousand</i>	GO·SEN ゴ・セン
六千	six + thousand = <i>six thousand</i>	ROKU·SEN ロク・セン
七千	seven + thousand = <i>seven thousand</i>	nana·SEN なな・セン
八千	eight + thousand = <i>eight thousand</i>	HAS·SEN ハッ・セン
九千	nine + thousand = <i>nine thousand</i>	KYŪ·SEN キュウ・セン

SAMPLE SENTENCE

米 は 七千円 なので 安くない。

kome wa nana·SEN·EN na no de yasu·kunai.

rice seven thousand yen because not cheap

= *At seven thousand yen, rice isn't cheap.*

WRITING PRACTICE					

COMPONENT 66

GIRAFFE



You will notice this component used extensively in written Japanese, as it appears in almost one hundred kanji.

KANJI 66

休 REST

ノ	イ	仁	仕	休	休			
BUILDING THIS KANJI Giraffe 𠂇 + Tree 木(13) = 休								

MEANING

Rest.

REMEMBERING THIS KANJI

One of the surprises of my trip to Africa was learning that **giraffes RESTED** in trees. The safari leader mentioned that this was natural behavior. “They prefer baobabs,” he said. “The branches are lower, so when the **giraffes** make a running leap at them they can jump higher into the **tree**. But this is not done simply for **REST**,” he then added. “It also serves as an effective way for any **giraffe** to avoid its natural creditors.”



COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Common **ON** reading: **KYŪ** (キュウ)

Common **kun** reading: **yasu** (やす)

kun-yomi suggestion: “try a souffle”

Create your **on-yomi** keyword and enter it in the table at the back of the book. After that, write your sentence to remember the **on-yomi** and **kun-yomi** readings in the box below.

LESS COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Less common **ON** reading: none

Less common **kun** reading: none

COMMON WORDS AND COMPOUNDS		
休む	<i>to rest</i>	yasu·mu やす・む
お休み	<i>“Good night!”</i>	o·yasu·mi お・やす・み
休日	rest + sun (day) = <i>holiday</i>	KYŪ·JITSU キュウ・ジツ

夏休み	summer + rest = <i>summer vacation</i>	natsu yasu ·mi なつ やす.み
冬休み	winter + rest = <i>winter vacation</i>	fuyu yasu ·mi ふゆ やす.み
休火山	rest + fire + mountain = <i>dormant volcano</i>	KYŪ ·KA·ZAN キュウ.カ.ザン

SAMPLE SENTENCE

山口さん は 半日 休みました。

Yama·guchi-san wa HAN·NICHI yasu·mimashita.

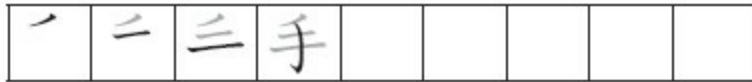
Yamaguchi-san half a day rested

= *Yamaguchi-san rested for half a day.*

WRITING PRACTICE

KANJI 67

手 HAND



MEANING

Hand. No story required.



COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Common **ON** reading: **SHU** (シュ ヌ)

Common **kun** reading: **te** (テ)

The **kun-yomi** is by far the most common reading.

kun-yomi suggestion: “**table**”

Create your **on-yomi** keyword and enter it in the table at the back of the book. After that, write your sentence to remember the **on-yomi** and **kun-yomi** readings in the box below.

--

LESS COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Less common **ON** reading: none

Less common **kun** reading: **ta** (た)

ta (た) is an extremely rare reading, although it does show up in 下手, a common irregular reading we learned back in Chapter 2. It is presented again below following its companion; the two words are best learned as a pair.

IRREGULAR READINGS		
上手	upper + hand = <i>to be good at</i> (something)	JŌ•zu ジョウ・ず
下手	lower + hand = <i>to be poor at</i> (something)	he•ta へ•た

COMMON WORDS AND COMPOUNDS		
手	hand	te て
右手	right + hand = <i>right hand</i>	migi•te みぎ•て
左手	left + hand = <i>left hand</i>	hidari•te ひだり•て
手元	hand + basis = <i>at hand</i>	te•moto て•もと
手首	hand + neck = <i>wrist</i>	te•kubi て•くび
手話	hand + speak = <i>sign language</i>	SHU•WA シュ•ワ
空手	empty + hand = <i>karate</i>	kara•te から•て

SAMPLE SENTENCE

の ピアニスト の 手 は 美 しい で す ね。

ano pianisuto no te wa utsuku-shii desu ne.

that pianist hands beautiful aren't they

= *That pianist's hands are beautiful, aren't they?*

WRITING PRACTICE

[illegible]

KANJI 68

本 MAIN

一	十	才	木	本				
BUILDING THIS KANJI								
Tree 木(13) + One (hamburger patty) 一(3) = 本								

MEANING

This intriguing character encompasses a range of meanings from “main” to “origin”, and is also used to emphasize the idea of “this”. When encountered alone, however, it often indicates a book. It is also one of the more common of an infamous group of kanji that Japanese uses for counting, being employed for long, cylindrical objects such as pencils and bottles. The sense of “origin”, incidentally, is evident in the compound for Japan itself, the “Land of the Rising Sun”.

REMEMBERING THIS KANJI

Despite cultural differences, there is a surprising amount of commonality in the world’s MAIN myths. The people of Ur, for example, clearly tell Enkidu in the “Epic of Gilgamesh” that the MAIN race of people was conceived from a “union between **hamburger patty** and **tree**”. Beowulf, too, quotes Norse mythology to explain the MAIN purpose of mankind: “Go forth, so that from **patties** will sprout mighty **trees**...” Coincidence? In the MAIN, it’s unlikely.



COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Common **ON** reading: **HON** (ホン)

Common **kun** reading: **moto** (もと)

The **kun-yomi** is common in Japanese family and place names; the fifth compound below provides an example. Create your **on-yomi** keyword and enter it in the table at the back of the book. After that, write your sentence to remember the **on-yomi** and **kun-yomi** readings in the box below.

LESS COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Less common **ON** reading: none

Less common **kun** reading: none

COMMON WORDS AND COMPOUNDS		
本	<i>book</i>	HON ホン
日本	sun + main = <i>Japan</i>	NI·HON ニ・ホン NIP·PON ニッ・ポン
全日本	complete + sun + main = <i>all Japan</i>	ZEN·NI·HON ゼン・ニ・ホン

日本人	sun + main + person = <i>a Japanese (person)</i>	NI·HON·JIN ニ・ホン・ジン
山本さん	mountain + main = <i>Yamamoto-san</i>	yama·moto·san やま・もと・さん
日本語	sun + main + words = <i>Japanese (language)</i>	NI·HON·GO ニ・ホン・ゴ
本土	main + earth = <i>mainland</i>	HON·DO ホン・ド

SAMPLE SENTENCE

山下さん は 高い 本 を 買いました。

Yama·shita-san wa taka·i HON o ka·imashita.

Yamashita-san expensive book bought

= *Yamashita-san bought an expensive book.*

WRITING PRACTICE

COMPONENT 69

BEGGAR

匕



KANJI 69

化 CHANGE

ノ	イ	イ	化					
BUILDING THIS KANJI Giraffe イ + Beggar 匕 = 化								

MEANING

Change/Transform. When used as a suffix (as in several of the compounds below), this character expresses a variety of English words ending in “-ification” or “-ization”.

REMEMBERING THIS KANJI

Grandpa liked nothing more than to help those down on their luck. But he never gave money. I learned this when I saw him carrying a stuffed **giraffe** down to skid row one day.

“This is for you,” he said to a **beggar**, passing him the toy. “A companion to share your woe.”

The **beggar** nodded, and after taking his gift started immediately across the street.

“Where are you going?” Grandpa asked.

“This **giraffe** is so wonderful,” said the **beggar**, “that I want to show it

to all my friends in the pawn shop.”

Grandpa smiled. “Now do you understand?” he said to me. “Giving money **CHANGES** nothing. It is only through stuffed **giraffes** that a **beggar’s** life can truly be **CHANGED**.”



COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Common **ON** reading: **KA** (カ)

Common **kun** reading: none

Create your **on-yomi** keyword and enter it in the table at the back of the book. After that, write your sentence to remember the **on-yomi** reading in the box below.

--

LESS COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Less common **ON** reading: **KE** (ケ)

Less common **kun** reading: **ba** (バ)

COMMON WORDS AND COMPOUNDS		
国有化	country + have + change = <i>nationalization</i>	KOKU·YŪ·KA コク・ユウ・カ
美化	beautiful + change	BI·KA

	= <i>beautification</i>	ビ・カ
化学	change + study = <i>chemistry</i>	KA・GAKU カ・ガク
気化	spirit + change = <i>vaporize</i>	KI・KA キ・カ
電化	electric + change = <i>electrification</i>	DEN・KA デン・カ
同化	same + change = <i>assimilation</i>	DŌ・KA ドウ・カ

SAMPLE SENTENCE

山本さん は 化学 が 大好き です。

Yama·moto-san wa KA·GAKU ga DAIsu·ki desu.

Yamamoto-san chemistry really likes

= *Yamamoto-san really likes chemistry.*

WRITING PRACTICE

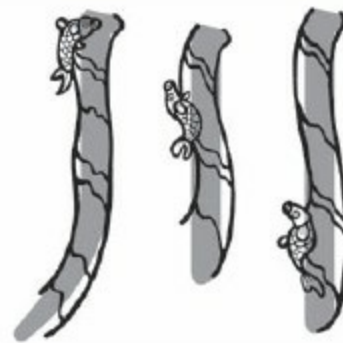
KANJI 70

川 RIVER

川	川	川						
---	---	---	--	--	--	--	--	--

MEANING

River. No story required.



COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Common **ON** reading: none

Common **kun** reading: **kawa** (かわ)

When appearing as the final character in the names of rivers, this kanji is invariably voiced (becomes “**gawa**”).

kun-yomi suggestion: “lack a wax”

Create your sentence to remember the **kun-yomi** reading in the box below.

--

LESS COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Less common **ON** reading: **SEN**

Less common **kun** reading: none

COMMON WORDS AND COMPOUNDS		
川	<i>river</i>	kawa かわ
川上	river + upper = <i>upstream</i>	kawa·kami かわ·かみ
川下	river + lower = <i>downstream</i>	kawa·shimo かわ·しも
川口	river + mouth = <i>river mouth</i>	kawa·guchi かわ·ぐち
川本さん	river + main = <i>Kawamoto-san</i>	kawa·moto·san かわ·もと·さん

SAMPLE SENTENCE

山の上に行くと川が見えますか。

yama no ue ni i-ku to kawa ga mi·emasu ka.

mountain upper go river can see

= *Can you see the river if you go to the top of the mountain?*

WRITING PRACTICE					

KANJI 71

体 BODY

ノ	イ	仁	什	休	休	体		
BUILDING THIS KANJI								
Giraffe ノ + Main 本(68) = 体								

MEANING

The physical body (of a person or object), as well as secondary ideas of “substance” and “style”. Make sure to keep this character distinct in your mind from “休” (Entry [66](#)).

REMEMBERING THIS KANJI

As the **main** part of a **giraffe**’s identity is tied to its statuesque **BODY**, all **giraffes** have a tendency to be vain. This naturally breeds conflict on the savanna. It is a rare wildebeest, for example, who hasn’t been left with crippling **BODY** issues after watching a **giraffe** stride nobly along in the distance. As cats, however, it is the lions who are especially **BODY** conscious and apt to take a slight personally. Though the **main** part of their diet lies elsewhere, they will attack any **giraffe** who looks down on them.



COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Common **ON** reading: **TAI** (タイ)

Common **kun** reading: **karada** (からだ)

kun-yomi suggestion: “make a **rad** ambulance”

Create your **on-yomi** keyword and enter it in the table at the back of the book. After that, write your sentence to remember the **on-yomi** and **kun-yomi** readings in the box below.

--

LESS COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Less common **ON** reading: **TEI** (テイ)

Less common **kun** reading: none

COMMON WORDS AND COMPOUNDS		
体	<i>body</i>	karada からだ
大体	large + body = <i>in general</i>	DAI·TAI ダイ・タイ
全体	complete + body = <i>the whole</i>	ZEN·TAI ゼン・タイ
肉体	meat + body = <i>the body</i>	NIKU·TAI ニク・タイ
体力	body + strength = <i>physical strength</i>	TAI·RYOKU タイ・リョク
自体	self + body = <i>in itself</i>	JI·TAI ジ・タイ
団体	group + body = <i>organization</i>	DAN·TAI ダン・タイ

SAMPLE SENTENCE

あの人 は すごく 体力 が 有ります。

ano hito wa sugoku TAI·RYOKU ga a·rimasu.

that person incredible physical strength has

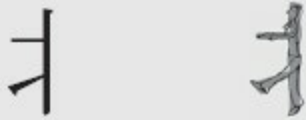
= *That person has incredible physical strength.*

WRITING PRACTICE

[illegible]

COMPONENT 72

SLEEPWALKER



KANJI 72

北 NORTH

一	亅	亅	亅	北				
BUILDING THIS KANJI Sleepwalker 亅 + Beggar 匕 = 北								

MEANING

North.

REMEMBERING THIS KANJI

Once upon a time, a **sleepwalker** heading **NORTH** passed a **beggar**. “I’d better follow,” thought the **beggar**. “This **sleepwalker** might be on her way to Santa’s workshop, and I hear that guy gives away lots of free stuff.”



COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Common **ON** reading: **HOKU** (ホク)

Common **kun** reading: **kita** (きた)

As the final example shows, **HOKU** can double up with unvoiced consonant sounds.

kun-yomi suggestion: “**ski tax**”

Create your **on-yomi** keyword and enter it in the table at the back of the book. After that, write your sentence to remember the **on-yomi** and **kun-yomi** readings in the box below.

LESS COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Less common **ON** reading: none

Less common **kun** reading: none

COMMON WORDS AND COMPOUNDS		
北	<i>north</i>	kita きた
北米	north + rice (America) = <i>North America</i>	HOKU·BEI ホク・ベイ

北口	north + mouth = <i>north exit/entrance</i>	kita·guchi きた・ぐち
北東	north + east = <i>northeast</i>	HOKU·TŌ ホク・トウ
北西	north + west = <i>northwest</i>	HOKU·SEI ホク・セイ
北海道	north + sea + road = <i>Hokkaido</i>	HOK·KAI·DŌ ホッ・カイ・ドウ

SAMPLE SENTENCE

北日本 の 冬 は とても 美しい。

kita·NI·HON no fuyu wa totemo utsuku·shii.

northern Japan winter very beautiful

= *Northern Japan's winter is very beautiful.*

WRITING PRACTICE

[illegible]

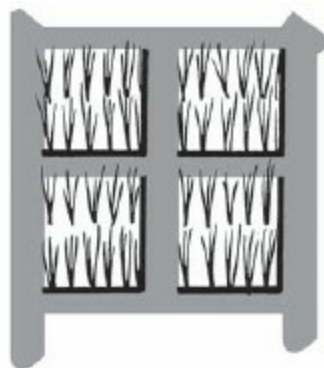
KANJI 73

田 RICE FIELD



MEANING

“Rice field”, or a “field” in general. No story required.



COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Common **ON** reading: **DEN** (デン)

Common **kun** reading: **ta** (た)

This kanji is commonly used in Japanese family names; it is often voiced, as in the fourth and fifth examples below, the latter of which has a mix of **on** and **kun-yomi**.

kun-yomi suggestion: “**tack**”

Create your **on-yomi** keyword and enter it in the table at the back of the book. After that, write your sentence to remember the **on-yomi** and **kun-yomi** readings in the box below.

LESS COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Less common **ON** reading: none

Less common **kun** reading: none

Here is a common irregular reading:

IRREGULAR READING		
田舎	* rice field + building = <i>the countryside</i>	inaka いなか

COMMON WORDS AND COMPOUNDS		
田	<i>rice field</i>	ta た
水田	water + rice field = <i>rice paddy</i>	SUI·DEN スイ・デン
田中さん	rice field + middle = <i>Tanaka-san</i>	ta·naka·san た·なか·さん
山田さん	mountain + rice field = <i>Yamada-san</i>	yama·da·san やま·だ·さん
本田さん	main + rice field = <i>Honda-san</i>	HON·da·san ホン·だ·さん

SAMPLE SENTENCE

水田 を 見 に 行きました。

SUI·DEN o mi ni i·kimashita.

rice paddy see went

= *(She) went to see the rice paddies.*

WRITING PRACTICE					

KANJI 74

男 MAN

丨	冂	𠂔	𠂔	田	男	男		
BUILDING THIS KANJI								
Rice field 田(73) + Strength 力(63) = 男								

MEANING

Man/Male.

REMEMBERING THIS KANJI

There is a story from feudal Japan in which a lord asks a group of **MEN** to demonstrate their **strength**. The task he sets them is simple: to lift up as much of a **rice field** as possible. Each **MAN** in the competition does his best, of course, but none save the last can pull up more than an armful of muck. What is this final **MAN**'S secret, you ask? It should be obvious: he was the only one with enough sense to use a bulldozer.



COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Common **ON** reading: **DAN** (ダン)

Common **kun** reading: **otoko** (おとこ)

kun-yomi suggestion: “**O! Toe cold**”

Create your **on-yomi** keyword and enter it in the table at the back of the book. After that, write your sentence to remember the **on-yomi** and **kun-yomi** readings in the box below.

--

LESS COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Less common **ON** reading: **NAN** (ナン)

Less common **kun** reading: none

COMMON WORDS AND COMPOUNDS		
男	<i>man</i>	otoko おとこ
男女	man + woman = <i>men and women</i>	DAN·JO ダン・ジョ
男子	man + child = <i>men's</i>	DAN·SHI ダン・シ
大男	large + man = <i>large man</i>	ō·otoko おお・おとこ
雪男	snow + man = <i>the abominable snowman</i>	yuki·otoko ゆき・おとこ

SAMPLE SENTENCE

あの 男 の 人 は 五千円 を なくした。

ano otoko no hito wa GO·SEN·EN o nakushita.

that man person five thousand yen lost

= *That man lost five thousand yen.*

WRITING PRACTICE					

COMPONENT 75

PIG



KANJI 75

家 HOUSE

丶	亠	宀	宀	宀	宀	宀	宀	宀
家								
BUILDING THIS KANJI Pincers 宀 + Pig 豕 = 家								

MEANING

This character generally imparts some sense of relation to a house or family. When used as a suffix, however, it denotes a person having some degree of skill or interest with respect to the kanji preceding it. The final compound below illustrates this aspect of its meaning.

REMEMBERING THIS KANJI

People told me I was crazy when they learned I was moving from my farm to the metropolis. ‘The people are cold there, and you won’t make any friends’, they all said. Well, I went anyway, and to prove them I wrong got out my **pincers** and hung an enormous **pig** outside my **HOUSE** in order to welcome people as they walked by. And yet this is the strange thing: despite all the squealing for days on end, nobody visited, and when I told people my **HOUSE** was the one with the **pincers** and **pig**, they quit

talking to me altogether! I guess everyone was right to say folks wouldn't be very friendly, 'cause they sure weren't when it came to my **HOUSE**.



COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Common **ON** reading: **KA** (カ)

Common **kun** reading: **ie** (いえ)

kun-yomi suggestion: “Canadian”

Create your **on-yomi** keyword and enter it in the table at the back of the book. After that, write your sentence to remember the **on-yomi** and **kun-yomi** readings in the box below.

--

LESS COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Less common **ON** reading: **KE** (ケ)

Less common **kun** reading: **ya** (ヤ)

COMMON WORDS AND COMPOUNDS		
家	house	ie いえ
人家	person + housebr = dwelling	JIN·KA

		ジン・カ
売り家	sell + house = <i>"house for sale"</i>	u·ri ie う・り いえ
家具	house + tool = <i>furniture</i>	KA·GU カ・グ
愛鳥家	love + bird + house = <i>bird lover</i>	AI·CHŌ·KA アイ・チョウ・カ

SAMPLE SENTENCE

本田さん の 家 を 見ました か。

HON·da-san no ie o mi-mashita ka.

Honda-san house see

= *Did you see Honda-san's house?*

WRITING PRACTICE					

KANJI 76

東 EAST

一	乚	冂	冂	日	申	東	東	
BUILDING THIS KANJI								
Tree 木(13) + Sun 日(6) = 東								

MEANING

East.

REMEMBERING THIS KANJI

Note that the writing order for this kanji does not follow that of the components as listed. This will happen only rarely; the image of a **sun** rising behind a **tree** in the **EAST**, however, is clearly the logical way to remember this character.



COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Common **ON** reading: TŌ (トウ)

Common **kun** reading: **higashi** (ひがし)

kun-yomi suggestion: “**he gash easy**...”

Create your **on-yomi** keyword and enter it in the table at the back of the book. After that, write your sentence to remember the **on-yomi** and **kun-yomi** readings in the box below.

--

LESS COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Less common **ON** reading: none

Less common **kun** reading: none

COMMON WORDS AND COMPOUNDS		
東	<i>east</i>	higashi ひがし
東口	east + mouth = <i>east exit/entrance</i>	higashi·guchi ひがし・ぐち
中東	middle + east = <i>the Middle East</i>	CHŪ·TŌ チュウ・トウ
東京	east + capital = <i>Tokyo</i>	TŌ·KYŌ トウ・キョウ
南東	south + east = <i>southeast</i>	NAN·TŌ ナン・トウ
北北東	north + north + east = <i>north-northeast</i>	HOKU·HOKU·TŌ ホク・ホク・トウ

SAMPLE SENTENCE

東口 の キオスク で 本 を 買いました。

higashi·guchi no kiosuku de HON o ka·imashita.

east exit kiosk book bought

= *(I) bought a book at the east exit kiosk.*

WRITING PRACTICE

[illegible]

KANJI 77

思 THINK

丨	冂	𠂔	田	田	思	思	思
BUILDING THIS KANJI							
Rice field 田(73) + Heart 心(25) = 思							

MEANING

Think.

REMEMBERING THIS KANJI

And so I took the **heart** and buried it in a **rice field**. But soon I began to **THINK**: What if it rises to the surface? What if a thrifty animal digs it up for food? Horrors! All I could do was **THINK...THINK** of what I had done, until there was nothing in my head but the beating of that hideous **heart** in the **rice field**. But I know what you **THINK**: you either **THINK** I'm mad, or that this story sounds awfully familiar.



COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Common **ON** reading: **SHI** (シ)

Common **kun** reading: **omo** (おも)

kun-yomi suggestion: “**o, mow...**”

Create your **on-yomi** keyword and enter it in the table at the back of the book. After that, write your sentence to remember the **on-yomi** and **kun-yomi** readings in the box below.

--

LESS COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Less common **ON** reading: none

Less common **kun** reading: none

COMMON WORDS AND COMPOUNDS		
思う	<i>to think</i>	omo·u おも・う
思い出す	think + exit = <i>to remember</i>	omo·i da·su おも・い だ・す
物思い	thing + think = <i>pensiveness</i>	mono omo·i もの おも・い
思い切る	think + cut = <i>to make up one's mind</i>	omo·i ki·ru おも・い き・る
意思	mind + think = <i>(one's) intent</i>	I·SHI イ・シ

SAMPLE SENTENCE

テーブルの上に四百円あると思います。

tēburu no ue ni yon·HYAKU·EN aru to omo·imasu.

table above four hundred yen is think

= *(I) think there's four hundred yen on the table.*

WRITING PRACTICE

[illegible]

KANJI 78

耳 EAR



MEANING

Ear. No story required.



COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Common **ON** reading: none

Common **kun** reading: **mimi** (みみ)

kun-yomi suggestion: “**Me! Me!**”

Create your sentence to remember the **kun-yomi** reading in the box below.

--

LESS COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Less common **ON** reading: **JI** (ジ)

Less common **kun** reading: none

COMMON WORDS AND COMPOUNDS		
耳	<i>ear</i>	mimi みみ
耳元	ear + basis = <i>close to one's ear</i>	mimi·moto みみ・もと
空耳	empty + ear = <i>mishearing; feigned deafness</i>	sora· mimi そら・みみ

SAMPLE SENTENCE

田中さん の 耳 が 赤い。

Ta·naka-san no mimi ga aka·i.

Tanaka-san ears red

= *Tanaka-san's ears are red.*

WRITING PRACTICE					

COMPONENT 79

WISHBONES



KANJI 79

父 FATHER

ノ	ハ	父	父					
BUILDING THIS KANJI Eight (volcano) ハ(19) + Wishbones 𠂔 = 父								

MEANING

Father.

REMEMBERING THIS KANJI

Jupiter, as **FATHER** of the gods, can do whatever he wants. Unfortunately, he's not as environmentally conscious as he should be, and often uses the nearest **volcano** to dump **wishbones** and other scraps from his plate. Jupiter's son Vulcan, the god of **volcanoes**, naturally takes exception to this behavior. "So help me, **FATHER**," he says, "if I wake up with any more **wishbones** on my rug, I might just erupt."



COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Common **ON** reading: **FU** (フ)

Common **kun** reading: **chichi** (ちち)

The various words for father shown below reflect differing levels of familiarity and politeness; most terms used for addressing people in Japan have multiple forms such as these.

kun-yomi suggestion: “**Chichi** Rodriguez”

Create your **on-yomi** keyword and enter it in the table at the back of the book. After that, write your sentence to remember the **on-yomi** and **kun-yomi** readings in the box below.

--

LESS COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Less common **ON** reading: none

Less common **kun** reading: none

These two irregular readings are extremely common.

IRREGULAR READINGS		
お父さん	father = <i>father</i>	otōsan おとうさん

伯父さん*	related + father = <i>uncle</i>	ojisan おじさん
-------	------------------------------------	----------------

COMMON WORDS AND COMPOUNDS		
父	<i>father</i>	chichi ちち
父の日	father + sun (day) = <i>Father's Day</i>	chichi·no·hi ちち·の·ひ
父母	father + mother = <i>father and mother</i>	FU·BO フ·ボ
父親	father + parent = <i>father</i>	chichi·oya ちち·おや

SAMPLE SENTENCE

父 は ビジネス で 東京 へ 行きました。

chichi wa bijinesu de TŌ·KYŌ e i·kimashita.

Father business Tokyo went

= *Father went to Tokyo on business.*

WRITING PRACTICE					

KANJI 80

言 SAY



MEANING

“Saying”, and things of a verbal nature. This character, incidentally, will become very familiar; it appears in more than sixty other kanji.

REMEMBERING THIS KANJI

“I want...to drink...yours...blood”. Isn’t this what a **vampire** like Dracula always **SAYS**? Sure, you **SAY**, but what’s with the bad grammar? Well, give Dracula a break; he’s from Transylvania, and English isn’t his first language. Notice, by the way, that the second stroke from the top is longer than those above or below it.



COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Common **ON** reading: **GEN** (ゲン)

Common **kun** reading: **i** (い)

kun-yomi suggestion: “eager”

Create your **on-yomi** keyword and enter it in the table at the back of the book. After that, write your sentence to remember the **on-yomi** and **kun-yomi** readings in the box below.

--

LESS COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Less common **ON** reading: **GON** (ゴン)

Less common **kun** reading: **koto** (こと)

The reading **koto** will be encountered primarily in the Japanese term for “word”: **koto·ba** (ことば), composed of the kanji 言葉 (Say/Leaf *).

COMMON WORDS AND COMPOUNDS		
言う	<i>to say</i>	i·u い・う
言い回し	say + rotate = <i>(turn of) expression</i>	i·i mawa·shi い・い まわ・し
明言	bright + say = <i>declaration</i>	MEI·GEN メイ・ゲン
言語	say + words = <i>language</i>	GEN·GO ゲン・ゴ
言い出す	say + exit = <i>to begin to say</i>	i·i da·su い・い だ・す
言い切る	say + cut = <i>to say definitively</i>	i·i ki·ru い・い き・る

SAMPLE SENTENCE

--

川本さん も “はい” と 言いました。

Kawa·moto-san mo “hai” to i·imashita.

Kawamoto-san also “yes” said

= *Kawamoto-san also said “yes”.*

WRITING PRACTICE					

CHAPTER 4 REVIEW EXERCISES

A. Please match the following kanji to their meanings.

- | | |
|-------|-------------|
| 1. 父 | a. Body |
| 2. 川 | b. Hand |
| 3. 安 | c. Father |
| 4. 東 | d. Thousand |
| 5. 手 | e. Main |
| 6. 男 | f. Ease |
| 7. 千 | g. Man |
| 8. 力 | h. East |
| 9. 体 | i. Strength |
| 10. 本 | j. River |

B. Please match the following meanings to their kanji, and these to their **on** or **kun-yomi**.

- | | | |
|-------------------------------|------|----------------------|
| 1. Rest | a. 田 | 1. GEN (ゲン) |
| 2. Change | b. 耳 | 2. HOKU (ホク) |
| 3. North | c. 化 | 3. SHI (シ) |
| 4. House (kun-yomi) | d. 言 | 4. yasu (やす) |
| 5. Rice field | e. 夏 | 5. SUI (スイ) |
| 6. Think | f. 休 | 6. ta (た) |
| 7. Summer (kun-yomi) | g. 家 | 7. natsu (なつ) |
| 8. Say | h. 水 | 8. ie (いえ) |

9. Water

i. 北 9. **KA** (カ)

10. Ear

j. 思 10. **mimi** (みみ)

C. Please choose the best answer(s) to the following questions.

1. Which of the following readings apply to the kanji 東?

- a. **TŌ** (トウ)
- b. **higashi** (ひがし)
- c. **KA** (カ)
- d. **kita** (きた)
- e. **minami** (みなみ)

2. Which of the following readings apply to the kanji 男?

- a. **onna** (おんな)
- b. **DAN** (ダン)
- c. **otoko** (おとこ)
- d. **KYŪ** (キュウ)
- e. **SUI** (スイ)

3. Which of the following kanji have an **on-yomi** of **KA** (カ)?

- a. 夏
- b. 北
- c. 思
- d. 家
- e. 化

4. What would make a nice gift for a pair of newlyweds?

- a. 手
- b. 体

- c. 耳
- d. 家
- e. 北

5. Which of the following readings apply to the kanji 体?

- a. **SHŌ** (シヨウ)
- b. **TAI** (タイ)
- c. **omo** (おも)
- d. **DAI** (ダイ)
- e. **karada** (からだ)

D. Please choose the best answer to the following questions.

1. Which of the following kanji has the most number of strokes?

- a. 東
- b. 男
- c. 言
- d. 思
- e. 体

2. Which is the correct reading of 安い?

- a. **omo·i** (おも·い)
- b. **yasu·i** (やす·い)
- c. **taka·i** (たか·い)
- d. **ō·i** (おお·い)

3. Which is the correct reading of 思う?

- a. **ka·u** (か·う)
- b. **ko·u** (こ·う)
- c. **omo·u** (おも·う)

d. **o·u** (お・う)

4. Which kanji would precede 力 to form the compound for “physical strength”?

- a. 休
- b. 本
- c. 東
- d. 体
- e. 耳

5. Which is the correct reading of 言う?

- a. **i·u** (い・う)
- b. **o·u** (お・う)
- c. **a·u** (あ・う)
- d. **omo·u** (おも・う)

E. Please match the following compounds and words to their meanings and pronunciations.

1. 大体

a. Close to one’s ear

1. **SUI·CHŪ**

(スイ・チュウ)

2. 全日本

b. Peace of mind

2. **te·kubi**

(て・くび)

3. 北米

c. In general

3. **mimi·moto**

(みみ・もと)

4. 耳元

d. Summer vacation

4. **i·i mawa·shi**

(いい まわ・し)

5. 水中

e. Powerful

5. **AN·SHIN**

(アン・シン)

6. 有力

f. North America

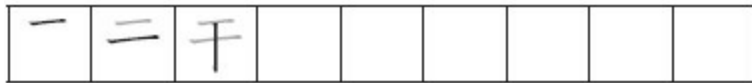
6. **ZEN·NI·HON**

		(ゼン・ニ・ホン)
7. 言い回し	g. Wrist	7. natsu yasu-mi (なつ やす・み)
8. 夏休み	h. All Japan	8. HOKU-BEI (ホク・ベイ)
9. 手首	i. (Turn of) expression	9. DAI-TAI (ダイ・タイ)
10. 安心	j. Underwater/ In the water	10. YŪ-RYOKU (ユウ・リョク)

CHAPTER 5 (KANJI 81-100)

KANJI 81

干 DRY



MEANING

Dry/Ebb. This character will not be encountered frequently. It does figure as a component in other more common kanji, however, and because of this is presented here. Take a moment to note the difference between this character and 干 (Entry [65](#)). No story required.



COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Common **ON** reading: none

Common **kun** readings: **hi** (ヒ); **ho** (ホ)

As seen in the third example below, the **kun-yomi** “**ho**” can become voiced in the second position.

kun-yomi suggestions: “heat”; “hose”

Create your sentence to remember the **kun-yomi** readings in the box below.

LESS COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Less common **ON** reading: **KAN** (カン)

Less common **kun** reading: none

COMMON WORDS AND COMPOUNDS		
干る (intr)	<i>to dry (on its own)</i>	hi·ru ひ・る
干す (tr)	<i>to dry (something)</i>	ho·su ほ・す
日干し	sun + dry = <i>sun-dried</i>	hi bo·shi ひ ぼ・し
干上がる	dry + upper = <i>to dry up</i>	hi a·garu ひ あ・がる
干物	dry + thing = <i>dried fish</i>	hi·mono ひ・もの

SAMPLE SENTENCE

干物 を 買って 下さい。

hi·mono o kat·te kuda·sai.

dried fish buy please

= *Please buy dried fish.*

WRITING PRACTICE					

KANJI 82

金 GOLD

ノ	人	人	人	干	金	金	金	
BUILDING THIS KANJI								
Umbrella 人 + Dry 干 (81) + Snowboard 𠂔 = 金								

MEANING

Depending on the context in which it appears, this common character signifies either “gold”, “metal”, or “money”. It clearly means “gold”, for instance, when referring to the status of an Olympic champion. When functioning as a component, however, it hints that the kanji involved has some connection to metal in general.

REMEMBERING THIS KANJI

Following a quick break with his buddies, the **snowboarder** had another vision. This time, however, the genie was very specific: “Dude, unless this **GOLDEN** snowboard is kept **dry** at all times, it will immediately turn back into fiber-glass. You must, therefore, always use an **umbrella**, even on the gnarliest runs. Should you not keep it **dry**...well, it would still be a decent enough board, it just wouldn't be **GOLD** anymore. And **GOLD** is like, really valuable.”



COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Common **ON** reading: **KIN** (キン)

Common **kun** reading: **kane** (かね)

kun-yomi suggestion: “**Khan** ate”

Create your **on-yomi** keyword and enter it in the table at the back of the book. After that, write your sentence to remember the **on-yomi** and **kun-yomi** readings in the box below.

--

LESS COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Less common **ON** reading: **KON** (コン)

Less common **kun** reading: **kana** (かな)

COMMON WORDS AND COMPOUNDS		
金	<i>gold; metal; money</i>	KIN キン
金	<i>metal; money</i>	kane かね
金山	gold + mountain = <i>gold mine</i>	KIN·ZAN キン・ザン
年金	year + gold (money) = <i>annuity/pension</i>	NEN·KIN ネン・キン
金曜日	gold + day of the week + sun (day) = <i>Friday</i>	KIN·YŌ·bi キン・ヨウ・ビ
金星	gold + star = <i>Venus (planet)</i>	KIN·SEI キン・セイ

SAMPLE SENTENCE

内田さん は あまり お金 が ない。

Uchi-da-san wa amari o-kane ga nai.

Uchida-san not much money not

= *Uchida-san doesn't have much money.*

WRITING PRACTICE

KANJI 83

語 WORDS

丶	一	二	三	言	言	言	言	言
語	語	語	語	語				
BUILDING THIS KANJI Say 言 (80) + Five 五 (14) + Mouth (vampire) 口 (8) = 語								

MEANING

Words. This kanji will become familiar as the character used to indicate languages; a pair of examples can be seen in the compounds below.

REMEMBERING THIS KANJI

Mark my **WORDS**: despite what **vampires** everywhere will **say**, you do not want to go to a pentagon party with **five** of them. Their reassuring **WORDS** of such events being “normal Transylvanian hospitality” are far from the truth.



COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Common **ON** reading: **GO** (ゴ)

Common **kun** reading: **kata** (かた)

Note the importance of long and short vowel sounds in Japanese by looking closely at the second and third examples below. Also note the presence of an irregular reading (上手) in the sample sentence.

kun-yomi suggestion: “**cat** **acne**”

Create your **on-yomi** keyword and enter it in the table at the back of the book. After that, write your sentence to remember the **on-yomi** and **kun-yomi** readings in the box below.

LESS COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Less common **ON** reading: none

Less common **kun** reading: **katari** (かたり)

COMMON WORDS AND COMPOUNDS		
語る	<i>to talk</i>	kata·ru かた・る
口語	mouth + words = <i>colloquial language</i>	KŌ·GO コウ・ゴ
古語	old + words = <i>archaic word</i>	KO·GO コ・ゴ
日本語	sun + main + words = <i>Japanese (language)</i>	NI·HON·GO ニ・ホン・ゴ
言語	say + words = <i>language</i>	GEN·GO ゲン・ゴ
英語	English + words = <i>English (language)</i>	EI·GO エイ・ゴ
語学	words + study = <i>linguistics</i>	GO·GAKU ゴ・ガク

SAMPLE SENTENCE

あなた の 日本語 は 上手 です よ。

anata no NI·HON·GO wa JŌ·zu desu yo.

you Japanese good at

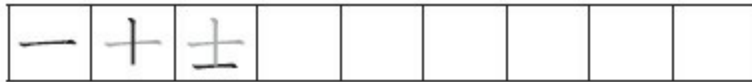
= *Your Japanese is good!*

WRITING PRACTICE

[illegible]

KANJI 84

士 GENTLEMAN



MEANING

The sense is of a gentleman, or of a man who has attained status in a military or academic field. No story required.



COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Common **ON** reading: **SHI** (シ)

Common **kun** reading: none

Create your **on-yomi** keyword and enter it in the table at the back of the book. After that, write your sentence to remember the **on-yomi** reading in the box below.

--

LESS COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Less common **ON** reading: none

Less common **kun** reading: none

COMMON WORDS AND COMPOUNDS		
力士	strength + gentleman = <i>sumo wrestler</i>	RIKI·SHI リキ・シ
士気	gentleman + spirit = <i>morale</i>	SHI·KI シ・キ
工学士	craft + study + gentleman = <i>Bachelor of Engineering</i>	KŌ·GAKU·SHI コウ・ガク・シ

SAMPLE SENTENCE

あの 力士 は とても 大きい です よ。

ano RIKI·SHI wa totemo ō·kii desu yo.

that sumo wrestler very large is

= *That sumo wrestler is really large!*

WRITING PRACTICE					

KANJI 85

朝 MORNING

一	十	𠂇	𠂇	𠂇	𠂇	𠂇	𠂇	朝
朝	朝	朝						
BUILDING THIS KANJI								
Ten (scarecrow) 十 (28) + Early 早 (29) + Moon 月 (11) = 朝								

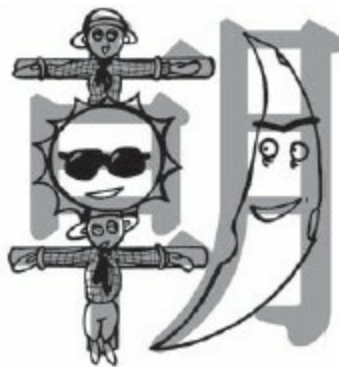
MEANING

Morning. A secondary meaning relates to royal dynasties.

REMEMBERING THIS KANJI

As always, each **MORNING** the **moon** gave a wink to the **scarecrow**.
“You’re up early,” he said.

“For godsakes,” said the **scarecrow**. “When are you going to get tired of that joke?”



COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Common **ON** reading: **CHŌ** (チ ョ ウ)

Common **kun** reading: **asa** (あ さ)

Note the mix of **on** and **kun-yomi** in the final example below.

kun-yomi suggestion: “Casanova”

Create your **on-yomi** keyword and enter it in the table at the back of the book. After that, write your sentence to remember the **on-yomi** and **kun-yomi** readings in the box below.

--

LESS COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Less common **ON** reading: none

Less common **kun** reading: none

IRREGULAR READING		
今朝*	now + morning = <i>this morning</i>	kesa けさ

COMMON WORDS AND COMPOUNDS		
朝	<i>morning</i>	asa あさ
朝日	morning + sun = <i>morning sun</i>	asa·hi あさ·ひ
王朝	king + morning = <i>dynasty</i>	Ō·CHŌ オウ·チョウ
早朝	early + morning = <i>early morning</i>	SŌ·CHŌ ソウ·チョウ
毎朝	every + morning = <i>every morning</i>	MAI·asa マイ·あさ

SAMPLE SENTENCE

上田さん は 朝 が 大好き です。

Ue·da-san wa asa ga DAI su·ki desu.

Ueda-san morning really likes

= *Ueda-san really likes mornings.*

WRITING PRACTICE					

COMPONENT 86

CANDLESTICK HOLDER



KANJI 86

青 BLUE

一	十	丰	主	丰	青	青	青	
BUILDING THIS KANJI Candlestick Holder 主 + Moon 月(11) = 青								

MEANING

Blue. Interestingly, this character is also applied to a few objects that Westerners invariably consider green, so prepare yourself to be confronted with blue traffic lights and blue vegetables, amongst other things. As in English, the sense of youth and immaturity is tied up with this idea of “green”; the third compound below provides an example.

REMEMBERING THIS KANJI

Even the **moon** can get depressed, and on those occasions when he’s feeling **BLUE** he doesn’t give off his normal amount of light. To cover up for this he’ll take out a **candlestick holder**, but as there’s nothing in it, his ploy doesn’t fool anyone. Luckily for us, he only feels this way once in a **BLUE moon**.



COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Common **ON** reading: **SEI** (セイ)

Common **kun** reading: **ao** (あお)

kun-yomi suggestion: “Laos”

Create your **on-yomi** keyword and enter it in the table at the back of the book. After that, write your sentence to remember the **on-yomi** and **kun-yomi** readings in the box below.

--

LESS COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

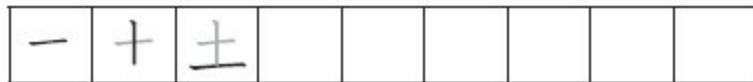
Less common **ON** reading: **SHŌ** (ショウ)

Less common **kun** reading: none

COMMON WORDS AND COMPOUNDS		
青	<i>blue; green (noun)</i>	ao あお
青い	<i>blue; green (adjective)</i>	ao·i あおい
青春	blue + spring = <i>youth</i>	SEI·SHUN セイ・シュン

KANJI 87

土 EARTH



MEANING

Think of earth here as in “dirt”, not the planet on which we live. Take a moment to note the subtle difference between this kanji and “土” (Entry 84); you’ve developed a practiced eye if you’re now able to take such variations into account! No story required.



COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Common **ON** reading: **DO** (ド)

Common **kun** reading: **tsuchi** (つち)

Note the mixture of **on-** and **kun-yomi** in the second example (and in the last, as expected).

kun-yomi suggestion: “got **Sioux cheetahs**”

Create your **on-yomi** keyword and enter it in the table at the back of the book. After that, write your sentence to remember the **on-yomi** and **kun-yomi** readings in the box below.

--

LESS COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Less common **ON** reading: **TO** (ト)

Less common **kun** reading: none

IRREGULAR READING		
土産*	earth + produce = <i>souvenir</i>	miyage みやげ

COMMON WORDS AND COMPOUNDS		
土	<i>earth</i>	tsuchi つち
土手	earth + hand = <i>embankment</i>	DO·te ド・テ
本土	main + earth = <i>mainland</i>	HON·DO ホン・ド
土木	earth + tree = <i>civil engineering</i>	DO·BOKU ド・ボク
土星	earth + star = <i>Saturn (planet)</i>	DO·SEI ド・セイ
土曜日	earth + day of the week + sun (day) = <i>Saturday</i>	DO·YŌ·bi ド・ヨウ・ビ

SAMPLE SENTENCE

川 の 土手 を 上がる と 水田 が 見えます。

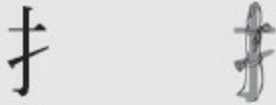
kawa no DO·te o a·garu to SUI·DEN ga mi·emasu.

river embankment go up rice paddies can see

= *If you go up the river embankment, you can see rice paddies.*

COMPONENT 88

FINGER



A ring and a string for a finger. There will be little chance of forgetting this component, incidentally, as it is present in nearly a hundred kanji - most relating in some way to hands and arms.

KANJI 88

掛 HANG

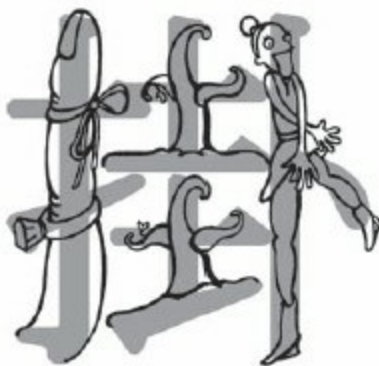
一	扌	扌	扌	扌	扌	扌	扌	扌
掛	掛							
BUILDING THIS KANJI Finger 扌 + Earth 土(87) + Earth 土(87) + Poor Figure Skater 卜 = 掛								

MEANING

Hang. Note how the last stroke of the bottom “earth” component leads into the next line by being drawn on an upward angle.

REMEMBERING THIS KANJI

Fingers can indicate harsh criticism, especially when it comes to bad figure skating. “**HANG** up your skates!” people will scream while pointing, making the **bad figure skater** want to hide behind a **couple piles of earth**. Some skaters, apparently, can do nothing but **HANG** their heads in shame.



COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Common **ON** reading: none

Common **kun** reading: **ka** (か)

As the final example below shows, this kanji can act similarly to 買 (Entry 50).

kun-yomi suggestion: “cat”

There is no **on-yomi** reading for this character. Create your sentence to remember the **kun-yomi** reading in the box below.

LESS COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Less common **ON** reading: none

Less common **kun** reading: none

COMMON WORDS AND COMPOUNDS		
掛かる (intr)	<i>to hang (by oneself)</i>	ka •karu か・かる
掛ける (tr)	<i>to hang (something)</i>	ka •keru か・ける
掛金	hang + gold (money)	kake •KIN

||= installment

||かけ・キン

SAMPLE SENTENCE

シャツ を あそこ に 掛けて 下さい。

shatsu o asoko ni ka·kete kuda·sai.

shirts over there hang please

= *Please hang the shirts over there.*

WRITING PRACTICE

COMPONENT 89

CHAIR



KANJI 89

万 TEN THOUSAND

一	万	万						
BUILDING THIS KANJI One (top of a bun) 一(3) + Chair 力 = 万								

MEANING

Ten thousand. More so than “百” and “千” (Entries 51 and 65), this character can express the general idea of a “countless amount” of something.

REMEMBERING THIS KANJI

The ancient writer Xenophon tells the story of **TEN THOUSAND** Greek mercenaries marching against Persia in 401 B.C. What is interesting is that each of the **TEN THOUSAND** carries a lawn **chair**, together with a shield shaped like the **top of a bun**.



COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Common **ON** reading: **MAN** (マン)

Common **kun** reading: none

As we saw for the kanji “百” and “千”, note how the numbers four and seven appear with their **kun-yomi**.

Create your **on-yomi** keyword and enter it in the table at the back of the book. After that, write your sentence to remember the **on-yomi** and **kun-yomi** readings in the box below.

--

LESS COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Less common **ON** reading: **BAN** (バン)

Less common **kun** reading: none

BAN shows up in Japan’s famous word for “hurrah!”, 万歳 (Ten thousand/Annual *): **BAN·ZAI** (バン・ザイ)

COMMON WORDS AND COMPOUNDS		
一万	one + ten thousand = <i>ten thousand</i>	ICHI·MAN イチ・マン

二万	two + ten thousand = <i>twenty thousand</i>	NI·MAN ニ・マン
三万	three + ten thousand = <i>thirty thousand</i>	SAN·MAN サン・マン
四万	four + ten thousand = <i>forty thousand</i>	yon·MAN よん・マン
五万	five + ten thousand = <i>fifty thousand</i>	GO·MAN ゴ・マン
六万	six + ten thousand = <i>sixty thousand</i>	ROKU·MAN ロク・マン
七万	seven + ten thousand = <i>seventy thousand</i>	nana·MAN なな・マン
八万	eight + ten thousand = <i>eighty thousand</i>	HACHI·MAN ハチ・マン
九万	nine + ten thousand = <i>ninety thousand</i>	KYŪ·MAN キュウ・マン

SAMPLE SENTENCE

あの 国 の 人口 は 八万人 です。

ano kuni no JIN·KŌ wa HACHI·MAN·NIN desu.

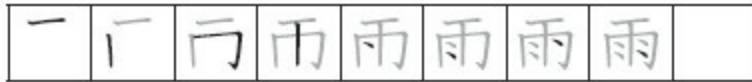
that country population eighty thousand people is

= *That country's population is eighty thousand.*

WRITING PRACTICE					

KANJI 90

雨 RAIN



MEANING

Rain. This wonderfully distinctive character is more easily learned without being broken into components. Because of this, no story is required.



COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Common **ON** reading: none

Common **kun** readings: **ame** (あめ); **ama** (あま)

The **kun-yomi** “**ama**” only appears in the first position.

kun-yomi suggestions: “scam age”; “amaretto”

Create your sentence to remember the **kun-yomi** readings in the box below.

--

LESS COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Less common **ON** reading: U (ウ)

Less common **kun** reading: none

The following word can be read with its normal **on-yomi**, but is often heard with the irregular reading pronunciation below.

IRREGULAR READING		
梅雨*	plum tree + rain = <i>the rainy season</i>	tsuyu つゆ

COMMON WORDS AND COMPOUNDS		
雨	<i>rain</i>	ame あめ
雨上がり	rain + upper = <i>after the rain</i>	ame a·gari あめ あ・がり
大雨	large + rain = <i>heavy rain</i>	ō·ame おお・あめ
雨空	rain + empty (sky) = <i>a rainy sky</i>	ama·zora あま・ぞら
雨雲	rain + cloud = <i>rain cloud</i>	ama·gumo あま・ぐも

SAMPLE SENTENCE

九月 には 日本 で 大雨 の 日 が 多い です。

KU·GATSU ni wa NI·HON de ō·ame no hi ga ō·i desu.

September Japan heavy rain day many

= *In September, Japan has many days with heavy rain.*

WRITING PRACTICE					

KANJI 91

電 ELECTRIC

一	丨	冂	冂	冂	冂	冂	冂	冂
雨	雨	雨	電					
BUILDING THIS KANJI								
Rain 雨(90) + Sun 日(6) + Hook 乚 = 電								

MEANING

Electric/Electricity.

REMEMBERING THIS KANJI

The atmosphere was **ELECTRIC**: **rain** and **sun** were on a collision course! At the last moment, however, a **hook** was used to hold the **sun** back, saving either it from being extinguished or the **rain** from being evaporated. As the kanji shows, the elements remain in this state even now, so close that an **ELECTRIC** current would have difficulty passing between them.



COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Common ON reading: **DEN** (デン)

Common **kun** reading: none

Create your **on-yomi** keyword and enter it in the table at the back of the book. After that, write your sentence to remember the **on-yomi** reading in the box below.

--

LESS COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Less common **ON** reading: none

Less common **kun** reading: none

COMMON WORDS AND COMPOUNDS		
電化	electric + change = <i>electrification</i>	DEN·KA デン・カ
電力	electric + strength = <i>electric power</i>	DEN·RYOKU デン・リョク
電子	electric + child = <i>electron</i>	DEN·SHI デン・シ
電気	electric + spirit = <i>electricity</i>	DEN·KI デン・キ
電話	electric + speak = <i>telephone</i>	DEN·WA デン・ワ
電車	electric + car = <i>(electric) train</i>	DEN·SHA デン・シャ

SAMPLE SENTENCE

田中さん は 電車 を 下りました。

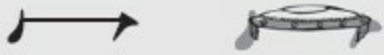
Ta·naka-san wa DEN·SHA o o·rimashita.

Tanaka-san train descended

= *Tanaka-san got off the train.*

COMPONENT 92

UFO



Make sure you clearly see the difference between this component and the “pincers”.

KANJI 92

売 SELL

一	十	士	𠂔	𠂔	𠂔	売		
BUILDING THIS KANJI								
Gentleman 士(84) + UFO 𠂔 + Ballet 儿 = 売								

MEANING

Sell.

REMEMBERING THIS KANJI

It is common knowledge that the statues of Easter Island relate to the visit of a UFO. What is less well known is that the **gentleman** piloting this UFO chose to **SELL** **ballet** gear to the locals. What was the purpose of this? Were the natives to put tutus on the monoliths? Wear the slippers themselves? Given the lack of **ballet** dancers or practice facilities on Easter Island at the time, anthropologists wonder why this **gentleman** didn't **SELL** the locals something more useful.



COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Common **ON** reading: **BAI** (バイ)

Common **kun** reading: **u** (ウ)

As the final example below shows, this is another kanji that can function similarly to “買” (Entry 50).

kun-yomi suggestion: “oodles”

Create your **on-yomi** keyword and enter it in the table at the back of the book. After that, write your sentence to remember the **on-yomi** and **kun-yomi** readings in the box below.

LESS COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Less common **ON** reading: none

Less common **kun** reading: none

COMMON WORDS AND COMPOUNDS		
売る	<i>to sell</i>	u·ru うる
売り歩く	sell + walk = <i>to peddle</i>	u·ri aru·ku

		う・り ある・く
売春	sell + spring = <i>prostitution</i>	BAI ·SHUN バイ・シュン
売り家	sell + house = “ <i>house for sale</i> ”	u ·ri ie う・り いえ
売り切 れる	sell + cut = <i>to be sold out</i>	u ·ri ki·reru う・り き・れる
売切れ	sell + cut = “ <i>sold out</i> ”	uri ki·re うり き・れ

SAMPLE SENTENCE

田口さん は 日本語 の 本 を 売って います。

Ta·guchi-san wa NI·HON·GO no HON o u·tte imasu.

Taguchi-san Japanese books sells

= *Taguchi-san sells Japanese books.*

WRITING PRACTICE

KANJI 93

者 INDIVIDUAL

一	十	土	彡	耂	者	者	者	
BUILDING THIS KANJI								
Earth 土(87) + Comet 一 + Sun 日(6) = 者								

MEANING

Think of individual in the sense of a human being. The characters in a compound that precede this kanji (it never comes first) define the person.

REMEMBERING THIS KANJI

It's never a good idea to generalize, but let's face it: you can tell a lot about an **INDIVIDUAL** by the way they look. A heap of **earth**, for example, tends to be dirty; it clearly doesn't care about appearances and is thus down to **earth**. **Suns**, on the other hand, are obviously outgoing **INDIVIDUALS** with blazing style. **Comets**, however, have personalities that lie between these extremes (as the kanji shows); with qualities of **earth** and **sun**, each must be considered a separate **INDIVIDUAL**.



COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Common ON reading: **SHA** (シヤ)

Common **kun** reading: none

Create your **on-yomi** keyword and enter it in the table at the back of the book. After that, write your sentence to remember the **on-yomi** reading in the box below.

--

LESS COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Less common **ON** reading: none

Less common **kun** reading: **mono** (もの)

COMMON WORDS AND COMPOUNDS		
有力者	have + strength + individual = <i>powerful person</i>	YŪ·RYOKU·SHA ユウ・リョク・シャ
前者	before + individual = <i>the former</i>	ZEN·SHA ゼン・シャ
後者	after + individual = <i>the latter</i>	KŌ·SHA コウ・シャ
学者	study + individual = <i>scholar</i>	GAKU·SHA ガク・シャ

SAMPLE SENTENCE

あの国で王子は有力者です。

ano kuni de Ō·JI wa YŪ·RYOKU·SHA desu.

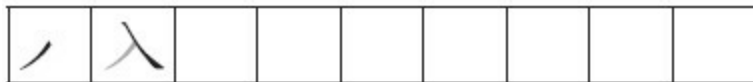
that country prince powerful person

= *The prince is a powerful person in that country.*

WRITING PRACTICE					

KANJI 94

入 ENTER



MEANING

Entering/Putting in. Make sure that you clearly see the difference between this kanji and those for “人” (Entry 2), and “八” (Entry 19). No story required.



COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Common **ON** reading: NYŪ (ニ ュ ウ)

Common **kun** readings: **hai** (はい); **i** (い)

It is worth looking carefully at the first three entries below. The word “**hai·ru**” expresses the **intransitive** meaning of the verb “enter” (that is, to enter some type of place); it is rarely used in compounds. “**i·ru**”, on the other hand, is most commonly found in compounds, primarily when the other kanji is read with **kun-yomi** (NYŪ performs this function when the other kanji is read with **on-yomi**). The word **i·reru** is simply the transitive companion of **hai·ru**.

One last twist is that the kanji can behave on rare occasions like 買; this

can be seen in the fourth example.

kun-yomi suggestions: “**highway**”; “**ether**”

Create your **on-yomi** keyword and enter it in the table at the back of the book. After that, write your sentence to remember the **on-yomi** and **kun-yomi** readings in the box below.

--

LESS COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Less common **ON** reading: none

Less common **kun** reading: none

COMMON WORDS AND COMPOUNDS		
入る (intr)	<i>to enter</i>	hai·ru はい.る
入る (intr)	<i>to enter</i>	i·ru い.る
入れる (tr)	<i>to put (something) into</i>	i·reru い.れる
入口	enter + mouth = <i>entrance</i>	iri·guchi いり.ぐち
入国	enter + country = <i>to enter a country</i>	NYŪ·KOKU ニュウ.コク
入金	enter + gold (money) = <i>payment</i>	NYŪ·KIN ニュウ.キン
買い入 れる	buy + enter = <i>to stock up on</i>	ka·i i·reru か.い い.れる

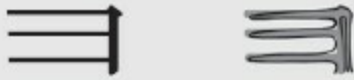
SAMPLE SENTENCE

= *Please insert the money.*

[illegible]

COMPONENT 95

COMB



KANJI 95

雪 SNOW

一	厂	冫	冫	冫	冫	冫	冫	雪
雪	雪							
BUILDING THIS KANJI Rain 雨(90) + Comb 彡 = 雪								

MEANING

Snow.

REMEMBERING THIS KANJI

I've come in from the **rain** and need to straighten my hair for a date. I do this, of course, but looking down moments later I tremble like a kitten: my **comb** is now covered with dandruff! I start to panic...until realizing that the **rain** had at some point become **SNOW**.



COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Common **ON** reading: none

Common **kun** reading: **yuki** (ゆき)

Note that the sample sentence contains an irregular reading (明日).

kun-yomi suggestion: “**you keep**”

Create your sentence to remember the **kun-yomi** reading in the box below.

LESS COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Less common **ON** reading: **SETSU** (セツ)

Less common **kun** reading: none

Here are two irregular readings that make use of this character.

IRREGULAR READINGS		
吹雪*	blow + snow = <i>blizzard</i>	fubuki ふぶき
雪崩*	snow + crumble = <i>avalanche</i>	nadare なだれ

COMMON WORDS AND COMPOUNDS

雪	snow	yuki ゆき
雪玉	snow + jewel = <i>snowball</i>	yuki·dama ゆき·だま
雪女	snow + woman = <i>snow fairy</i>	yuki·onna ゆき·おんな
雪男	snow + man = <i>the Abominable Snowman</i>	yuki·otoko ゆき·おとこ
大雪	large + snow = <i>heavy snow</i>	ō·yuki おお·ゆき
小雪	small + snow = <i>light snow</i>	ko·yuki こ·ゆき

SAMPLE SENTENCE

テレビのニュースによると明日から大雪です。

terebi no nyūsu ni yoru to ashita kara ōyuki desu.

television news according to tomorrow from heavy snow

= *According to the TV news, heavy snow will be starting tomorrow.*

WRITING PRACTICE

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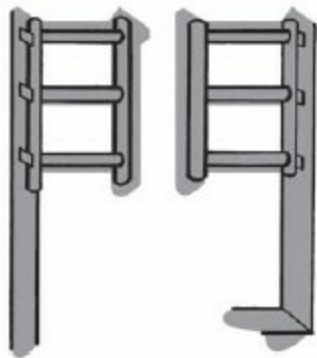
KANJI 96

門 GATE



MEANING

Gate. No story required.



COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Common **ON** reading: **MON** (モン)

Common **kun** reading: **kado** (かど)

Note that this kanji is usually read with its **on-yomi** when appearing alone.

kun-yomi suggestion: “**cod over**”

Create your **on-yomi** keyword and enter it in the table at the back of the book. After that, write your sentence to remember the **on-yomi** and **kun-yomi** readings in the box below.

--

LESS COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Less common **ON** reading: none

Less common **kun** reading: none

COMMON WORDS AND COMPOUNDS		
門	<i>gate</i>	MON モン
門口	gate + mouth = <i>front door</i>	kado·guchi かど・ぐち
水門	water + gate = <i>sluice gate</i>	SUI·MON スイ・モン
校門	school + gate = <i>school gate</i>	KŌ·MON コウ・モン

SAMPLE SENTENCE

あそこ の 高い 門 は とても 古い です ね。

asoko no taka·i MON wa totemo furu·i desu ne.

over there tall gate very old

= *That tall gate over there is very old, isn't it?*

WRITING PRACTICE					

KANJI 97

間 INTERVAL

丨	冂	冂	冂	冂	門	門	門	間
間	間	間						
BUILDING THIS KANJI Gate 門 (96) + Sun 日 (6) = 間								

MEANING

This character indicates an interval in time or space, and thus incorporates the ideas of “during”, “between” and “among”. When used with the **kun-yomi** “**ma**”, it can also mean a room.

REMEMBERING THIS KANJI

If the **sun** in this kanji is rising (as every fiber in my being leads me to believe), it will pass, after a short **INTERVAL**, through that **INTERVAL** between the **gates**.



COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Common **ON** reading: **KAN** (カン)

Common **kun** readings: **aida** (あいだ); **ma** (ま)

kun-yomi suggestions: “Idaho”; “map”

Create your **on-yomi** keyword and enter it in the table at the back of the book. After that, write your sentence to remember the **on-yomi** and **kun-yomi** readings in the box below.

--

LESS COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Less common **ON** reading: **KEN** (ケン)

Less common **kun** reading: none

COMMON WORDS AND COMPOUNDS		
間	<i>interval</i>	aida あいだ
手間	hand + interval = <i>labor; trouble</i>	te•ma て•ま
中間	middle + interval = <i>midway</i>	CHŪ•KAN チュウ•カン
時間	time + interval = <i>time</i>	JI•KAN ジ•カン
空間	empty + interval = <i>space</i>	KŪ•KAN クウ•カン

SAMPLE SENTENCE

アメリカ に いる 間 英語 を 話します。

Amerika ni iru aida EI•GO o hana•shimasu.

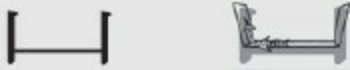
America be interval English speak

= *I'll speak English while I'm in America.*

WRITING PRACTICE					

COMPONENT 98

GARBAGE CAN



KANJI 98

出 EXIT

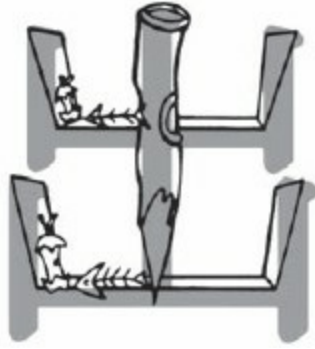
丨	乚	𠂇	出	出				
BUILDING THIS KANJI Pole 丨 + Garbage Can 𠂇 + Garbage Can 𠂇 = 出								

MEANING

Leave/Let out. Take care with the stroke order of this character.

REMEMBERING THIS KANJI

All right, so maybe I misunderstood my boss: putting a couple of **garbage cans** on a **pole** and standing at the **EXIT** of the voting station wasn't the right thing to do. But asking people to put "yes" votes in one **can** and "no" votes in the other...wouldn't anyone have thought that's what she meant by an **EXIT** poll?



COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Common **ON** reading: **SHUTSU** (シュツ)

Common **kun** readings: **de** (で); **da** (だ)

Note how the **on-yomi** “doubles up” with an unvoiced consonant sound in the last example below.

kun-yomi suggestions: “**date**”; “**dash**”

Create your **on-yomi** keyword and enter it in the table at the back of the book. After that, write your sentence to remember the **on-yomi** and **kun-yomi** readings in the box below.

--

LESS COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Less common **ON** reading: **SUI** (スイ)

Less common **kun** reading: none

COMMON WORDS AND COMPOUNDS		
出る (intr)	<i>to leave</i>	de·ru で·る
出す (tr)	<i>to let out</i>	da·su だ·す

出かける	<i>to leave (for somewhere)</i>	de·kakeru で·かける
思い出す	think + exit <i>= to remember</i>	omo·i da·su おも·い だ·す
出口	exit + mouth <i>= exit</i>	de·guchi で·ぐち
出国	exit + country <i>= to leave a country</i>	SHUK·KOKU シュツ·コク

SAMPLE SENTENCE

すみません、 出口 は どこ です か。

sumimasen de·guchi wa doko desu ka.

excuse me exit where

= Excuse me, where's the exit?

WRITING PRACTICE

KANJI 99

生 LIFE

ノ	一	牛	牛	生				
BUILDING THIS KANJI								
Jelly Bean ノ + Candlestick Holder 主 = 生								

MEANING

One of the most fascinating characters in the language, this kanji deals with life in all its guises. Along with the ideas of “birth”, “production”, and “growing”, it also incorporates the notions of “pure”, “raw”, and “fresh”, in everything from beer to silk. When used as a suffix, it will often indicate “student”.

REMEMBERING THIS KANJI

“Is there a better symbol of LIFE,” asked Sartre, “than a **jelly bean** stuck to the side of a **candlestick holder**, one that sits there alone and grows brittle with each passing year?”

It’s an interesting question. From what I’ve heard, though, **jelly beans** hold their flavor quite well, even when stuck to **candlestick holders**. So who knows, maybe LIFE isn’t so bad after all.



COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Common **ON** reading: **SEI** (セイ)

Common **kun** readings: **i** (い); **u** (う); **nama** (なま)

In terms of its variety of pronunciations, kanji do not come any more complicated than this. Perhaps it's appropriate, though: life itself can be complicated, so shouldn't the character representing it be as well? Fortunately, the two initial **kun-yomi** are verb stems (as are “o” and “ha” of the less common **kun-yomi** below), and **nama** appears only in the first position. This will always belong to the ranks of the toughest kanji, however, so allow yourself time to learn it, while not forgetting to enjoy a few of the fifth example below along the way.

kun-yomi suggestions: “eagle”; “oodles”; “Vietnam apple”

Create your **on-yomi** keyword and enter it in the table at the back of the book. After that, write your sentence to remember the **on-yomi** and **kun-yomi** readings in the box below.

--

LESS COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Less common **ON** reading: **SHŌ** (ショウ)

Less common **kun** readings: **o** (お); **ha** (は); **ki** (き)

IRREGULAR READING		
芝生*	lawn + life = <i>lawn</i>	shiba·fu しば・ふ

COMMON WORDS AND COMPOUNDS		
生きる (intr)	<i>to live</i>	i·kiru い・きる
生かす	<i>to give life to</i>	i·kasu

(tr)		い.かす
生まれる (intr)	<i>to be born</i>	u •mareru う.まれる
生む (tr)	<i>to give birth to</i>	u •mu う.む
生ビール	life + beer = <i>draft beer</i>	nama •bīru なま.ビール
人生	person + life = <i>(human) life</i>	JIN • SEI ジン.セイ
学生	study + life = <i>student</i>	GAKU • SEI ガク.セイ
先生	precede + life = <i>teacher</i>	SEN • SEI セン.セイ

SAMPLE SENTENCE

生ビール は 好き です か。

namabīru wa su·ki desu ka.

draft beer like

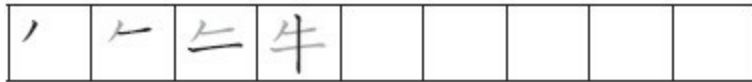
= *Do you like draft beer?*

WRITING PRACTICE

--	--	--	--	--	--

KANJI 100

牛 **cow**



MEANING

Cow/Ox/Bull. Note the difference in stroke order between this character and that of “生” (Entry [99](#)). No story required.



COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Common **ON** reading: **GYŪ** (ギョウ)

Common **kun** reading: **ushi** (うし)

kun-yomi suggestion: “true sheen”

Create your **on-yomi** keyword and enter it in the table at the back of the book. After that, write your sentence to remember the **on-yomi** and **kun-yomi** readings in the box below.

--

LESS COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Less common **ON** reading: none

Less common **kun** reading: none

COMMON WORDS AND COMPOUNDS		
牛	<i>cow</i>	ushi うし
子牛	child + cow = <i>calf</i>	ko·ushi こ・うし
水牛	water + cow = <i>water buffalo</i>	SUI·GYŪ スイ・ギュウ
牛肉	cow + meat = <i>beef</i>	GYŪ·NIKU ギュウ・ニク
牛馬	cow + horse = <i>cattle and horses</i>	GYŪ·BA ギュウ・バ

SAMPLE SENTENCE

アフリカ で 水牛 と キリン を 見ました。

Afurika de SUI·GYŪ to kirin o mi·mashita.

Africa water buffalo giraffe saw

= *(I) saw a water buffalo and a giraffe in Africa.*

WRITING PRACTICE					

CHAPTER 5 REVIEW EXERCISES

A. Please match the following kanji to their meanings.

- | | |
|-------|--------------|
| 1. 土 | a. Words |
| 2. 士 | b. Gentleman |
| 3. 雨 | c. Sell |
| 4. 間 | d. Exit |
| 5. 売 | e. Rain |
| 6. 干 | f. Life |
| 7. 生 | g. Interval |
| 8. 電 | h. Earth |
| 9. 出 | i. Electric |
| 10. 語 | j. Dry |

B. Please match the following meanings to their kanji, and these to their **on** or **kun-yomi**.

- | | | |
|---------------|------|---------------------|
| 1. Hang | a. 者 | 1. SHA (シャ) |
| 2. Snow | b. 牛 | 2. MAN (マン) |
| 3. Individual | c. 青 | 3. asa (あさ) |
| 4. Morning | d. 掛 | 4. GYŪ (ギョウ) |
| 5. Gold | e. 雪 | 5. yuki (ゆき) |
| 6. Gate | f. 入 | 6. MON (モン) |
| 7. Cow | g. 金 | 7. ao (あお) |
| 8. Enter | h. 万 | 8. KIN (キン) |

9. Ten thousand

i. 門

9. **NYŪ** (ニュウ)

10. Blue

j. 朝

10. **ka** (カ)

C. Please choose the best answer(s) to the following questions.

1. Which of the following kanji have an **on-yomi** of **SEI** (セイ)?

- a. 士
- b. 者
- c. 生
- d. 朝
- e. 青

2. Which of the following readings apply to the kanji 出?

- a. **da** (だ)
- b. **SHUTSU** (シュツ)
- c. **MON** (モン)
- d. **de** (で)
- e. **u** (う)

3. I went to the Himalayas and saw the Abominable ____ Man.

- a. 牛
- b. 雨
- c. 青
- d. 土
- e. 雪

4. Which of the following kanji have an **on-yomi** of **KAN** (カン)?

- a. 士
- b. 金

- c. 語
- d. 間
- e. 電

5. Which of the following readings apply to the kanji 生?

- a. **de** (で)
- b. **i** (い)
- c. **kado** (かど)
- d. **nama** (なま)
- e. **u** (う)

D. Please choose the best answer to the following questions.

1. Which of the following kanji has the most number of strokes?

- a. 間
- b. 語
- c. 掛
- d. 朝
- e. 電

2. Which is the correct reading of 売る?

- a. **de·ru** (で·る)
- b. **i·ru** (い·る)
- c. **u·ru** (う·る)
- d. **kata·ru** (かた·る)

3. Which is the correct reading of 入れる?

- a. **ka·reru** (か·れる)
- b. **omo·reru** (おも·れる)
- c. **kama·reru** (かま·れる)

d. **i·reru** (い・れる)

4. Which answer best captures the meaning of the compound 電化?

- a. Toast
- b. Electrification
- c. Cactus
- d. Lawnmower
- e. Yogurt

5. Which is the most common reading of 入る when it appears alone (is not part of a compound)?

- a. **i·ru** (い・る)
- b. **kata·ru** (かた・る)
- c. **u·ru** (う・る)
- d. **hai·ru** (はい・る)
- e. **hai·ru** (ひ・る)

E. Please match the following compounds and words to their meanings and pronunciations.

1. 朝日

a. Entrance

1. **DEN·RYOKU**

(デン・リョク)

2. 掛金

b. Snow fairy

2. **DO·te**

(ド・て)

3. 口語

c. Midway

3. **KŌ·GO**

(コウ・ゴ)

4. 入口

d. Installment

4. **asa·hi**

(あさ・ひ)

5. 中間

e. Youth

5. **yuki·onna**

(ゆき・おんな)

6. 大雨

f. Morning sun

6. **CHŪ·KAN**

(チュウ・カン)

7. 青春	g. Electric power	7. kake·KIN (かけ・キン)
8. 電力	h. Colloquial language	8. ō·ame (おお・あめ)
9. 雪女	i. Embankment	9. iri·guchi (いり・ぐち)
10. 土手	j. Heavy rain	10. SEI·SHUN (セイ・シュン)

CUMULATIVE REVIEW EXERCISES FOR CHAPTERS 1 - 5

A. Please match the following kanji to their meanings.

- | | |
|-------|------------|
| 1. 京 | a. Self |
| 2. 北 | b. Summer |
| 3. 玉 | c. Half |
| 4. 自 | d. North |
| 5. 化 | e. Spring |
| 6. 半 | f. Capital |
| 7. 朝 | g. Like |
| 8. 春 | h. Change |
| 9. 好 | i. Jewel |
| 10. 夏 | j. Morning |

B. Which kanji does not belong in the group?

- | | | | | |
|---------|------|------|------|------|
| 1. a. 耳 | b. 目 | c. 北 | d. 手 | e. 首 |
| 2. a. 土 | b. 女 | c. 王 | d. 男 | e. 子 |
| 3. a. 川 | b. 回 | c. 山 | d. 木 | e. 田 |
| 4. a. 木 | b. 牛 | c. 米 | d. 貝 | e. 玉 |
| 5. a. 子 | b. 上 | c. 左 | d. 右 | e. 下 |
| 6. a. 二 | b. 九 | c. 七 | d. 工 | e. 三 |
| 7. a. 万 | b. 干 | c. 十 | d. 千 | e. 百 |

- | | | | | |
|----------|------|------|------|------|
| 8. a. 川 | b. 雪 | c. 全 | d. 水 | e. 雨 |
| 9. a. 肉 | b. 出 | c. 歩 | d. 回 | e. 入 |
| 10. a. 日 | b. 月 | c. 火 | d. 水 | e. 木 |
| f. 金 | g. 土 | h. 夏 | | |

C. Identify the kanji having the most number of strokes.

- | | | | | |
|----------|------|------|------|------|
| 1. a. 山 | b. 日 | c. 工 | d. 万 | e. 女 |
| 2. a. 男 | b. 貝 | c. 回 | d. 金 | e. 体 |
| 3. a. 冬 | b. 木 | c. 子 | d. 五 | e. 元 |
| 4. a. 言 | b. 者 | c. 東 | d. 南 | e. 壳 |
| 5. a. 早 | b. 出 | c. 耳 | d. 全 | e. 見 |
| 6. a. 家 | b. 雪 | c. 買 | d. 掛 | e. 高 |
| 7. a. 夏 | b. 歩 | c. 首 | d. 雨 | e. 思 |
| 8. a. 家 | b. 掛 | c. 明 | d. 国 | e. 青 |
| 9. a. 生 | b. 本 | c. 白 | d. 古 | e. 肉 |
| 10. a. 電 | b. 朝 | c. 語 | d. 間 | e. 雪 |

D. Please list the following kanji in the order indicated (alphabetical).

1. Body / Main / Rest / Rice / Tree

- a. 休
- b. 木
- c. 本
- d. 体
- e. 米

2. Dry / Earth / Gentleman / Ten thousand / Thousand

- a. 士
- d. 土
- c. 千
- b. 干
- e. 万

3. Cow / Half / Jewel / King / Life

- a. 王
- b. 生
- c. 牛
- d. 玉
- e. 半

4. Buy / Eye / See / Self / Shellfish

- a. 自
- b. 目
- c. 買
- d. 貝
- e. 見

5. Early / Hundred / Individual / Sun / White

- a. 早
- b. 白
- c. 日
- d. 者
- e. 百

6. Capital / Early / Morning / Old / Tall

- a. 高
- b. 京

- c. 早
- d. 朝
- e. 古

7. Eight / Enter / Gentleman / Large / Person

- a. 士
- b. 人
- c. 入
- d. 大
- e. 八

8. Basis / Hand / Ten thousand / Thousand / Three

- a. 元
- b. 万
- c. 三
- d. 手
- e. 千

9. Circle / Ear / Inside / Meat / Moon

- a. 肉
- b. 耳
- c. 円
- d. 内
- e. 月

10. Change / Lower / North / Stop / Upper

- a. 下
- b. 化
- c. 上
- d. 北

e. 止

E. Please choose the best answer to the following questions.

1. I went on a nice vacation to the ____.

- a. 日
- b. 火
- c. 耳
- d. 牛
- e. 南

2. What is the best thing to take on a desert crossing?

- a. 木
- b. 水
- c. 火
- d. 門
- e. 掛

3. I bought some boots and took up ____ climbing.

- a. 米
- b. 肉
- c. 雨
- d. 山
- e. 口

4. A country would be run most poorly by a ____.

- a. 王
- b. 男
- c. 女
- d. 牛
- e. All of the preceding

5. The vampire bat flew in and went straight for my ____.

- a. 目
- b. 貝
- c. 首
- d. 手
- e. Wallet

F. Please choose the best answer(s) to the following questions.

1. Which of the following are readings for the kanji 木?

- a. **BOKU** (ボク)
- b. **ki** (き)
- c. **SETSU** (セツ)
- d. **haru** (はる)
- e. **MOKU** (モク)

2. Which of the following are readings for the kanji 下?

- a. **shita** (した)
- b. **o** (お)
- c. **kado** (かど)
- d. **kuda** (くだ)
- e. **KA** (カ)
- f. **sa** (さ)
- g. **GE** (ゲ)

3. Which of the following are readings for the kanji 米?

- a. **MAI** (マイ)
- b. **kome** (こめ)
- c. **BEI** (ベイ)
- d. **HOKU** (ホク)

e. **yuki** (ゆき)

4. Which of the following are readings for the kanji 上?

a. **kami** (かみ)

b. **ue** (うえ)

c. **Jō** (ジョウ)

d. **nobo** (のぼ)

e. **a** (あ)

f. **ie** (いえ)

g. **uwa** (うわ)

5. Which of the following are readings for the kanji 生?

a. **i** (い)

b. **nama** (なま)

c. **SEI** (セイ)

d. **haru** (はる)

e. **u** (う)

G. Please choose the best answer to the following questions.

1. Which is the correct reading of 歩く?

a. **haba·ku** (はば・く)

b. **aru·ku** (ある・く)

c. **fu·ku** (ふ・く)

d. **kata·ku** (かた・く)

2. Which is the correct reading of 高い?

a. **taka·i** (たか・い)

b. **kata·i** (かた・い)

- c. **ara·i** (あら・い)
- d. **usu·i** (うす・い)

3. Which is the correct reading of 休む?

- a. **kara·mu** (から・む)
- b. **i·mu** (い・む)
- c. **u·mu** (う・む)
- d. **yasu·mu** (やす・む)

4. Which is the correct reading of 入れる?

- a. **de·reru** (で·れる)
- b. **u·reru** (う·れる)
- c. **kata·reru** (かた·れる)
- d. **i·reru** (い·れる)

5. Which is the correct reading of 二つ?

- a. **mi·tsu** (み·つ)
- b. **futa·tsu** (ふた·つ)
- c. **hito·tsu** (ひと·つ)
- d. **u·tsu** (う·つ)

6. Which is the correct reading of 古い?

- a. **taka·i** (たか·い)
- b. **omo·i** (おも·い)
- c. **furu·i** (ふる·い)
- d. **haya·i** (はや·い)

7. Which is the correct reading of 早い?

- a. **haya·i** (はや·い)

- b. **yasu·i** (やす・い)
- c. **ao·i** (あお・い)
- d. **furu·i** (ふる・い)

8. Which is the correct reading of 小さい?

- a. **ka·sai** (か・さい)
- b. **ko·sai** (こ・さい)
- c. **chii·sai** (ちい・さい)
- d. **uru·sai** (うる・さい)

9. Which is the correct reading of 少ない?

- a. **de·nai** (で・ない)
- b. **suku·nai** (すく・ない)
- c. **taka·nai** (たか・ない)
- d. **kata·nai** (かた・ない)

10. Which is the correct reading of 少し?

- a. **ma·shi** (ま・し)
- b. **saga·shi** (さが・し)
- c. **u·shi** (う・し)
- d. **suko·shi** (すこ・し)

H. Please match the following compounds and words to their meanings and pronunciations.

1. 東京

a. To stock up on

1. **HON·DO**
(ホン・ド)

2. 見上げる

b. To remember

2. **AN·ZEN**
(アン・ゼン)

3. 休日

c. Five hundred

3. **TŌ·KYŌ**

		(トウ・キョウ)
4. 人生	d. Mainland	4. JŪ·ICHI·GATSU (ジュウ・イチ・ガツ)
5. 思い出す	e. To look up (to/at)	5. ka·i i·reru (か・い い・れる)
6. 十一月	f. November	6. JIN·SEI (ジン・セイ)
7. 五百	g. To enter a country	7. ko·haru (こ・はる)
8. 下水	h. Holiday	8. GYŪ·NIKU (ギョウ・ニク)
9. 小春	i. Safety	9. GO·HYAKU (ゴ・ヒャク)
10. 入国	j. One time	10. mi a·geru (み あ・げる)
11. 安全	k. Tokyo	11. IK·KAI (イッ・カイ)
12. 牛肉	l. Indian summer	12. omo·i da·su (おも・い だ・す)
13. 買い入れる m.	(Human) Life	13. NYŪ·KOKU (ニュウ・コク)
14. 一回	n. Sewage	14. KYŪ·JITSU (キュウ・ジツ)
15. 本土	o. Beef	15. GE·SUI (ゲ・スイ)

CHAPTER 6 (KANJI 101-120)

KANJI 101

美 BEAUTIFUL

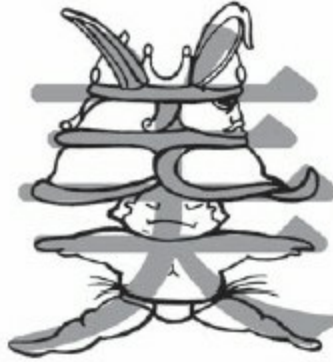
丶	丿	𠂇	𠂇	𠂇	𠂇	𠂇	美	美
BUILDING THIS KANJI								
Rabbit 丶 + King 王(23) + Large (sumo wrestler) 大(17)								
= 美								

MEANING

Used for all things beautiful, this character lives up to its name in a visual sense as well. Take care with the stroke order by writing the components as listed.

REMEMBERING THIS KANJI

The Zulu, along with several other tribes in southern Africa, equate **large** size with being **BEAUTIFUL**. A **king**, therefore, will make good use of the region's **rabbit** population to grow as **large** as possible, through eating incredible amounts of a filling **rabbit** stew. Read from the top down, the kanji shows this process clearly: rabbit goes into **king**...**king** becomes as **large** a sumo wrestler... **large** is **BEAUTIFUL**.



COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Common **ON** reading: **BI** (ビ)

Common **kun** reading: **utsuku** (うつく)

kun-yomi suggestion: “fruits cooling”

Create your **on-yomi** keyword and enter it in the table at the back of the book. After that, write your sentence to remember the **on-yomi** and **kun-yomi** readings in the box below.

--

LESS COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Less common **ON** reading: none

Less common **kun** reading: none

The following is a very common irregular reading.

IRREGULAR READING		
美味しい*	beautiful + taste = <i>delicious</i>	oi·shii おい·しい

COMMON WORDS AND COMPOUNDS		
美しい	<i>beautiful</i>	utsuku·shii

		うつく・しい
美人	beautiful + person = <i>beautiful woman</i>	BI·JIN ビ・ジン
美化	beautiful + change = <i>beautification</i>	BI·KA ビ・カ
美学	beautiful + study = <i>aesthetics</i>	BI·GAKU ビ・ガク

SAMPLE SENTENCE

山 の 木 が 美しい です。

yama no ki ga utsuku·shii desu.

mountain trees beautiful

= *The trees on the mountain are beautiful.*

WRITING PRACTICE

COMPONENT 102

DINOSAUR

鳥



KANJI 102

島 ISLAND

'	亅	尸	尸	尸	𪛗	鳥	鳥	島
島								
BUILDING THIS KANJI Dinosaur 鳥 + Mountain 山(1) = 島								

MEANING

Island.

REMEMBERING THIS KANJI

OK, so I have this great idea for a movie. It's set on an ISLAND, but what makes this ISLAND interesting is that some **dinosaurs** are still living on one of its **mountains**! It's a blockbuster concept, and though I'm still working out the details, I've already decided on a title: "Jurassic ISLAND".



COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Common **ON** reading: **TŌ** (トウ)

Common **kun** reading: **shima** (しま)

The **kun-yomi** for this kanji is often voiced when in the final position, as in the second compound below. Note also the voiced reading for 玉 in the third example.

kun-yomi suggestion: “**she maps**”

Create your **on-yomi** keyword and enter it in the table at the back of the book. After that, write your sentence to remember the **on-yomi** and **kun-yomi** readings in the box below.

--

LESS COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Less common **ON** reading: none

Less common **kun** reading: none

COMMON WORDS AND COMPOUNDS		
島	<i>island</i>	shima しま
	small + island	ko·jima

小島	= <i>small island</i>	こ・じま
島国	island + country = <i>island nation</i>	shima·guni しま・ぐに
半島	half + island = <i>peninsula</i>	HAN·TŌ ハン・トウ
本島	main + island = <i>main island</i>	HON·TŌ ホン・トウ

SAMPLE SENTENCE

オーストラリア と 日本 は 島国 です。

Ōsutoraria to NI·HON wa shima·guni desu.

Australia Japan island nation

= *Australia and Japan are island nations.*

WRITING PRACTICE					

KANJI 103

寸 TINY

一	寸	寸						
---	---	---	--	--	--	--	--	--

MEANING

Tiny.

REMEMBERING THIS KANJI

How **TINY**, you ask? Well, given that the soccer player in this illustration is life-size...pretty **TINY**. This kanji, as the lack of compounds below makes clear, will be much more important for us as a component than a character on its own; the tiny soccer player will be used to suggest it in all future stories.



COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Common **ON** reading: **SUN** (スン)

Common **kun** reading: none

Create your **on-yomi** keyword and enter it in the table at the back of the book. After that, write your sentence to remember the **on-yomi** reading in the box below.

--

LESS COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Less common **ON** reading: none

Less common **kun** reading: none

COMMON WORDS AND COMPOUNDS		
一寸	one + tiny = <i>a tiny bit</i>	IS·SUN イッ・スン
寸前	tiny + before = <i>immediately before</i>	SUN·ZEN スン・ゼン

SAMPLE SENTENCE

出かける 寸前 に 高木さん を 見ました。

de·kakeru SUN·ZEN ni Taka·gi-san o mi·mashita.

leave immediately before Takagi-san saw

= *I saw Takagi-san just before I left.*

KANJI 104

寺 **TEMPLE**

一	十	土	寺	寺			
BUILDING THIS KANJI							
Earth 土(87) + Tiny (soccer player) 寸(103) = 寺							

MEANING

(Buddhist) temple.

REMEMBERING THIS KANJI

Tiny soccer players are always in danger of being pushed around by their opponents. As a result of this, they usually become known as fearless defenders who protect their positions at all costs — treating even the **tiniest** piece of **earth** they occupy like a **TEMPLE** that must not be defiled. A **TEMPLE** in which it is permitted to wear cleats, of course.



COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Common **ON** reading: **JI** (ジ)

Common **kun** reading: **tera** (てら)

The **kun-yomi** becomes voiced when not in the first position, as it does

below in the third example. The final compound can also be read by the respective **kun-yomi**: **furu·dera** (ふ る・でら).

kun-yomi suggestion: “**tear apples**”

Create your **on-yomi** keyword and enter it in the table at the back of the book. After that, write your sentence to remember the **on-yomi** and **kun-yomi** readings in the box below.

LESS COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Less common **ON** reading: none

Less common **kun** reading: none

COMMON WORDS AND COMPOUNDS		
寺	<i>temple</i>	tera てら
寺田さん	temple + rice field = <i>Terada-san</i>	tera·da·san てら·だ·さん
山寺	mountain + temple = <i>mountain temple</i>	yama·dera やま·でら
古寺	old + temple = <i>old temple</i>	KO·JI コ·ジ

SAMPLE SENTENCE

山寺 の 古い 門 の 下 で 休みました。

yama·dera no furu·i MON no shita de yasu·mimashita.

mountain temple old gate under rested

= *(We) rested under the old gate of the mountain temple.*

WRITING PRACTICE					

KANJI 105

先 PRECEDE

ノ	一	土	生	先	先			
BUILDING THIS KANJI								
Jelly Bean ノ + Earth 土(87) + Ballet 儿 = 先								

MEANING

This character has a multitude of meanings, all of them derived from the general sense of “preceding”, or the idea of an object “ahead” in a literal or figurative way. Depending on the context in which it appears, this kanji can signify the “tip” or “point” of something, the general future (or the specific past, when used as in the third compound), or a destination. It can also refer to people in the sense of “the other party”.

REMEMBERING THIS KANJI

Most people are unaware that Tchaikovsky deleted a **jelly bean** character from his **ballet** “The Nutcracker”. This **jelly bean** was to always **PRECEDE** the Sugar Plum Fairy onstage, then be pinned to the **earth** and devoured by her at the end of the work (she by this time having been driven wild with sugar cravings). It was an edgy scene, but fortunately for **ballet** lovers everywhere, Tchaikovsky concluded it was incompatible with what **PRECEDED**, and decided to remove the **jelly bean** character altogether.



COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Common **ON** reading: **SEN** (セン)

Common **kun** reading: **saki** (さき)

kun-yomi suggestion: “**sack eels**”. If using your own idea for this **kun-yomi**, keep in mind that Japan’s famous rice wine is pronounced **sake** (さけ), and should not be confused with the reading of this character.

Create your **on-yomi** keyword and enter it in the table at the back of the book. After that, write your sentence to remember the **on-yomi** and **kun-yomi** readings in the box below.

--

LESS COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Less common **ON** reading: none

Less common **kun** reading: none

COMMON WORDS AND COMPOUNDS		
先	<i>precede; point; tip</i>	saki さき
先生	<i>precede + life</i> <i>= teacher</i>	SEN·SEI セン・セイ
先月	<i>precede + moon</i> (month) <i>= last month</i>	SEN·GETSU セン・ゲツ
口先	<i>mouth + precede</i> <i>= lip service</i>	kuchi·saki くち・さき

SAMPLE SENTENCE

先生 は 冬休み に 日本アルプス へ 行きました。

SEN·SEI wa fuyu yasu·mi ni NI·HON arupusu e i·kimashita.

teacher winter vacation Japanese Alps went

= *(Our) teacher went to the Japanese Alps for winter vacation.*

WRITING PRACTICE					

COMPONENT 106

PICNIC TABLE

开 开

Admittedly, this is not the most comfortable-looking picnic table.

KANJI 106

開 OPEN

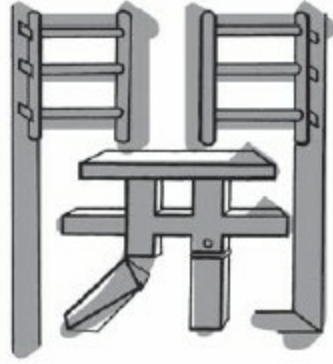
丨	冂	冂	冂	冂	門	門	門	門
門	開	開						
BUILDING THIS KANJI Gate 門(96) + Picnic Table 开 = 開								

MEANING

Open. Secondary meanings include “starting”, and the idea of “developing” things (in the sense of opening or reclaiming land, for example).

REMEMBERING THIS KANJI

Their picnic thrown into chaos by the sight of Visigoths on the horizon, the partiers ran desperately back to the castle. “**OPEN** the **gates!**”, “**OPEN** the **gates!**” they yelled to no avail, for nobody on the other side could hear them. It was only when the **picnic table** was used as a battering ram (thus breaking it) that the **gates** finally flew **OPEN** to let them in.



COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Common **ON** reading: **KAI** (カイ)

Common **kun** readings: **a** (あ); **hira** (ひら)

As a glance at the first three examples below suggests, this character can be a little tricky. In the general physical sense of “to open”, however, **a•ku** (あ•く) and **a•keru** (あ•ける) function as a normal intransitive/transitive verb pair. The word **hira•ku**, on the other hand, is more concerned with a metaphorical or non-physical sense of “opening”, and appears primarily in certain expressions (in the “opening”, for example, of a conference, of new lands, or of cherry blossoms). Expressing the sense of a shop’s front door being open would thus call for the verb **a•ku**, while conveying the idea of opening a business would require **hira•ku**.

In the first position, this kanji invariably takes the **on-yomi**.

kun-yomi suggestions: “appetite”; “he rapidly”

Create your **on-yomi** keyword and enter it in the table at the back of the book. After that, write your sentence to remember the **on-yomi** and **kun-yomi** readings in the box below.

--

LESS COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Less common **ON** reading: none

Less common **kun** reading: none

COMMON WORDS AND COMPOUNDS		
開く (intr)	<i>to be open</i>	a•ku あ・く
開ける(tr)	<i>to open (something)</i>	a•keru あ・ける
開く (intr/tr)	<i>to open; to develop</i>	hira•ku ひら・く
開化	open + change = <i>becoming civilized</i>	KAI•KA カイ・カ
開国	open + country = <i>to open up a country</i>	KAI•KOKU カイ・コク
開会	open + meet = <i>to open a meeting</i>	KAI•KAI カイ・カイ
公開	public + open = <i>open to the public</i>	KŌ•KAI コウ・カイ

SAMPLE SENTENCE

水門 を 開けて 下さい。

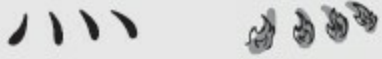
SUI•MON o a•kete kuda•sai.

sluice gate open please

= *Please open the sluice gate.*

COMPONENT 107

GAS STOVE



KANJI 107

鳥 BIRD

丶	亅	尸	尸	尸	尸	鳥	鳥	鳥
鳥	鳥							
BUILDING THIS KANJI Dinosaur 鳥 + Gas Stove 灬 = 鳥								

MEANING

Bird.

REMEMBERING THIS KANJI

As recent archaeological evidence has shown, **BIRDS** were an important part of a **dinosaur's** diet. Numerous cave drawings, in fact, show **dinosaurs** cooking **BIRDS** over **gas stoves**. This is interesting, for it has led some scholars to theorize that it was the **dinosaurs'** clumsy use of **gas stoves** that led to their extinction. If this is true, it explains nicely how **BIRDS** have managed to survive to the present day.



COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Common **ON** reading: **CHŌ** (チ ョ ウ)

Common **kun** reading: **tori** (と り)

kun-yomi suggestion: “lavatory”

Create your **on-yomi** keyword and enter it in the table at the back of the book. After that, write your sentence to remember the **on-yomi** and **kun-yomi** readings in the box below.

LESS COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Less common **ON** reading: none

Less common **kun** reading: none

COMMON WORDS AND COMPOUNDS		
鳥	<i>bird</i>	tori とり
白鳥	white + bird = <i>swan</i>	HAKU·CHŌ ハク・チョウ
小鳥	small + bird = <i>small bird</i>	ko·tori こ・とり

夜鳥	night + bird = <i>nocturnal bird</i>	YA·CHŌ ヤ・チョウ
愛鳥家	love + bird + house = <i>bird lover</i>	AI·CHŌ·KA アイ・チョウ・カ

SAMPLE SENTENCE

あの 青い 小鳥 の 名前 が 分かります か。

ano ao·i ko·tori no na·mae ga wa·karimasu ka.

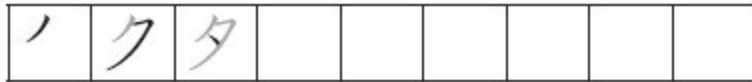
that blue little bird name understand

= *Do you know the name of that little blue bird?*

WRITING PRACTICE					

KANJI 108

夕 EVENING



MEANING

Evening. At this time of day, our friend the moon is not yet entirely visible through the evening mist. No story required.



COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Common **ON** reading: none

Common **kun** reading: yū (ゆ う)

kun-yomi suggestion: “ukulele”

Create your sentence to remember the **kun-yomi** reading in the box below.

--

LESS COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Less common **ON** reading: SEKI (セキ)

Less common **kun** reading: none

COMMON WORDS AND COMPOUNDS		
夕べ	<i>evening</i>	yū·be ゆう・べ
夕日	evening + sun = <i>setting sun</i>	yū·hi ゆう・ひ
夕立	evening + stand = <i>late afternoon (rain)</i> <i>shower</i>	yū·dachi ゆう・だち

SAMPLE SENTENCE

山 から 見る 夕日 が 美しい。

yama kara mi·ru yū·hi ga utsuku·shii.

river from see setting sun beautiful

= *The setting sun is beautiful when seen from the mountain.*

KANJI 109

外 OUTSIDE

ノ	ク	夕	外	外				
BUILDING THIS KANJI								
Evening 夕 (108) + Poor Figure Skater 卜 = 外								

MEANING

Outside. The idea of “foreign” or “other” is also present, as the third example below makes clear. The less common readings convey some secondary meanings of removal and disconnection.

REMEMBERING THIS KANJI

There is a very rigid hierarchy in the world of figure skating. When **evening** arrives, for instance, the arenas are often so full that the **poor figure skaters** are forced **OUTSIDE**. Unfortunately, the frozen puddles on the **OUTSIDE** parking lot do not provide nearly enough room for jumps.



COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Common **ON** reading: **GAI** (ガイ)

Common **kun** reading: **soto** (そと)

kun-yomi suggestion: “so toasty”

Create your **on-yomi** keyword and enter it in the table at the back of the book. After that, write your sentence to remember the **on-yomi** and **kun-yomi** readings in the box below.

--

LESS COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Less common **ON** reading: **GE** (ゲ)

Less common **kun** readings: **hoka** (ほか); **hazu** (はず)

COMMON WORDS AND COMPOUNDS		
外	<i>outside</i>	soto そと
外見	outside + see = <i>external appearance</i>	GAI·KEN ガイ・ケン
外国人	outside + country + person = <i>foreigner</i>	GAI·KOKU·JIN ガイ・コク・ジン
外出	outside + exit = <i>going out</i>	GAI·SHUTSU ガイ・シュツ
海外	sea + outside = <i>overseas</i>	KAI·GAI カイ・ガイ

SAMPLE SENTENCE

日本 には 外国人 が 多い。

NI·HON niwa GAI·KOKU·JIN ga ô·i.

Japan foreigners many

= *There are many foreigners in Japan.*

WRITING PRACTICE					

KANJI 110

舌 TONGUE

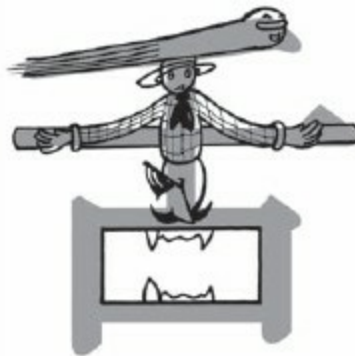
一	二	千	千	舌	舌			
BUILDING THIS KANJI								
Thousand 千(65) + Mouth (vampire) 口(8) = 外								

MEANING

Tongue.

REMEMBERING THIS KANJI

Interesting fact: a survey showed that **Thousand** Island dressing was a favorite amongst **vampires**. “It’s very pleasing to the **TONGUE**,” said one, “and it doesn’t have any...unfortunate ingredients.” Manufacturers of garlic-based dressings, it seems, need to take the **TONGUES** of **vampires** more into account if they want access to this market segment.



COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Common **ON** reading: none

Common **kun** reading: **shita** (した)

kun-yomi suggestion: “**she taps**”

Create your sentence to remember the **kun-yomi** reading in the box below.

LESS COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Less common **ON** reading: **ZETSU** (ゼツ)

Less common **kun** reading: none

COMMON WORDS AND COMPOUND		
舌	<i>tongue</i>	shita した

SAMPLE SENTENCE

内田さん は 舌 に ピアス を しました。

Uchi-da-san wa shita ni piasu o shimashita.

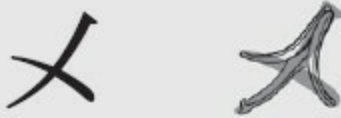
Uchida-san tongue piercing did

= *Uchida-san got her tongue pierced.*

WRITING PRACTICE					

COMPONENT 111

BANANA PEELS



KANJI 111

DIAGRAM

丨	匚	丿	㇏	ツ	义	図		
BUILDING THIS KANJI Prison 匚 + Jelly Bean 丿 + Jelly Bean ㇏ + Banana Peels ツ += 図								

MEANING

Diagram/Drawing. By extension comes the idea of “planning”.

REMEMBERING THIS KANJI

“You have to be sly if you’re going to break out of this **prison**,” my cellmate told me as I settled in. “The guards won’t allow us any pens so there’s no way to draw up an escape **DIAGRAM**. That’s why I have these.” He placed a couple of moldy **jelly beans** and some rotting **banana peels** on my bunk. “These **jelly beans** will be us,” he whispered, “and the **banana peels** will represent the guards. It’s not much, but we can plan our break using these as a **DIAGRAM**.”

I nodded. My time in **prison**, it seemed, was not only going to be long, but more boring than I could have possibly imagined.



COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Common **ON** readings: **ZU** (ズ); **TO** (ト)

Common **kun** reading: none

ZU is the more common reading. Note in the second example below how effectively Japanese can express complex English words.

Create your **on-yomi** keywords and enter them in the table at the back of the book. After that, write your sentence to remember the **on-yomi** readings in the box below.

LESS COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Less common **ON** reading: none

Less common **kun** reading: **haka** (はか)

COMMON WORDS AND COMPOUNDS		
図工	diagram + craft = <i>drawing and manual arts</i>	ZU·KŌ ズ・コウ
心電図	heart + electric + diagram = <i>electrocardiogram</i>	SHIN·DEN·ZU シン・デン・ズ

海図	sea + diagram = <i>nautical chart</i>	KAI·ZU カイ・ズ
意図	mind + diagram = <i>(one's) aim</i>	I·TO イ・ト

SAMPLE SENTENCE

心電図 モニター を 見せて 下さい。

SHIN·DEN·ZU monitā o mi·sete kuda·sai.

electrocardiogram monitor show please

= *Please show me the electrocardiogram monitor.*

WRITING PRACTICE					

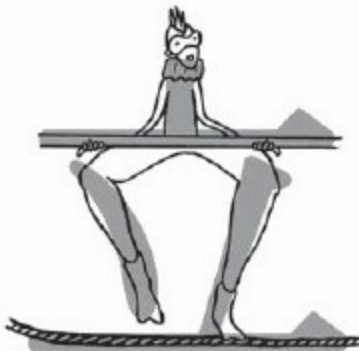
KANJI 112

立 **STAND**



MEANING

Stand/Rise. No story required.



COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Common **ON** reading: **RITSU** (リ ツ)

Common **kun** reading: **ta** (た)

Consistent with other **on-yomi** ending in **TSU** (ツ), **RITSU** “doubles up” with unvoiced consonant sounds that follow it, as the fifth example below demonstrates. It can also act like 買 (Entry 50) and become voiced in the second position. The final compound shows these aspects of its meaning.

kun-yomi suggestion: “**tax**”

Create your **on-yomi** keyword and enter it in the table at the back of the book. After that, write your sentence to remember the **on-yomi** and **kun-yomi** readings in the box below.

LESS COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Less common **ON** reading: **RYŪ** (リュウ)

Less common **kun** reading: none

COMMON WORDS AND COMPOUNDS		
立つ (intr)	<i>to stand</i>	ta·tsu た・つ
立てる (tr)	<i>to set up</i>	ta·teru た・てる
自立	self + stand = <i>independence</i>	JI·RITSU ジ・リツ
中立	middle + stand = <i>neutrality</i>	CHŪ·RITSU チュウ・リツ
立春	stand + spring = <i>first day of spring</i>	RIS·SHUN リツ・シュン
立ち入る	stand + enter = <i>to go into</i>	ta·chi i·ru た・ち い・る
夕立	evening + stand = <i>late afternoon (rain)</i> <i>shower</i>	yū·dachi ゆう・だち

SAMPLE SENTENCE

女の人 が 美しい 月 の 下 に 立っています。

onna no hito ga utsuku·shii tsuki no shita ni tat·te imasu.

woman person beautiful moon under is standing

= *The woman is standing under a beautiful moon.*

WRITING PRACTICE

KANJI 113

親 PARENT

丿	一	十	立	立	立	辛	亲	亲
亲	亲	亲	亲	亲	亲	亲		
BUILDING THIS KANJI Stand 立(112) + Tree 木(13) + See 見(42) = 親								

MEANING

“Parent”, together with the senses of intimacy and closeness.

REMEMBERING THIS KANJI

When she was young, her **PARENTS** would often sing the following ditty:

“**Stand** on a **tree**,
 And what do you **see**?
 Your **PARENTS**! Your **PARENTS**!”

It was cute, of course, but they really should have stopped at some point. After all, it wasn't easy for her as a university student having to answer the question “What's up with your **PARENTS** and that dumb song?”



COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Common **ON** reading: **SHIN** (シン)

Common **kun** reading: **oya** (おや)

kun-yomi suggestion: “coy about”

Create your **on-yomi** keyword and enter it in the table at the back of the book. After that, write your sentence to remember the **on-yomi** and **kun-yomi** readings in the box below.

--

LESS COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Less common **ON** reading: none

Less common **kun** reading: **shita** (した)

COMMON WORDS AND COMPOUNDS		
親	<i>parent</i>	oya おや
父親	father + parent = <i>father</i>	chichi•oya ちち•おや
親子	parent + child = <i>parent and child</i>	oya•ko おや•こ
肉親	meat + parent = <i>blood relative</i>	NIKU•SHIN ニク•シン
母親	mother + parent = <i>mother</i>	haha•oya はは•おや
親切	parent + cut = <i>kindhearted</i>	SHIN•SETSU シン•セツ

SAMPLE SENTENCE

中川さんの父親は山が大好きです。

Naka·gawa-san no chichi·oya wa yama ga DAI su·ki desu.

Nakagawa-san father mountain really likes

= *Nakagawa-san's father really likes the mountains.*

WRITING PRACTICE

[illegible]

KANJI 114

星 STAR

丨	冂	𠂔	日	戸	旦	早	𠂔	星
BUILDING THIS KANJI								
Sun 日(6) + Life 生(99) = 星								

MEANING

Star.

REMEMBERING THIS KANJI

When the **sun** is shining over your **life**, it's impossible not to feel like a **STAR**. A famous **STAR** like Sirius, mind you, not one of those dim ones nobody cares about.



COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Common **ON** reading: **SEI** (セイ)

Common **kun** reading: **hoshi** (ほし)

kun-yomi suggestion: “tally **ho**, **Sheeba**!”

Create your **on-yomi** keyword and enter it in the table at the back of the book. After that, write your sentence to remember the **on-yomi** and **kun-yomi** readings in the box below.

--

LESS COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Less common **ON** reading: **SHŌ** (ショウ)

Less common **kun** reading: none

COMMON WORDS AND COMPOUNDS		
星	<i>star</i>	hoshi ほし
水星	water + star = <i>Mercury (planet)</i>	SUI·SEI スイ・セイ
金星	gold + star = <i>Venus (planet)</i>	KIN·SEI キン・セイ
火星	fire + star = <i>Mars (planet)</i>	KA·SEI カ・セイ
木星	tree + star = <i>Jupiter (planet)</i>	MOKU·SEI モク・セイ
土星	earth + star = <i>Saturn (planet)</i>	DO·SEI ド・セイ

SAMPLE SENTENCE

あの 明るい 星 は 金星 だ と思います か。

ano aka·rui hoshi wa KIN·SEI da to omo·imasu ka.

that bright star Venus think

= *Do you think that bright “star” is Venus?*

WRITING PRACTICE

[illegible]

COMPONENT 115

CROPS

禾 禾

When this component appears it usually indicates a kanji with some connection to crops and harvesting.

KANJI 115

秋 AUTUMN

一	二	千	禾	禾	禾	禾	禾	禾	秋
BUILDING THIS KANJI									
Crops 禾 + Fire 火(59) = 秋									

MEANING

Autumn.

REMEMBERING THIS KANJI

No need for a long story here, given that the origin of this graceful character is clearly apparent, **AUTUMN** being the time when **fire** was set to the stubble of **crops** left after harvesting.



COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Common **ON** reading: **SHŪ** (シュウ)

Common **kun** reading: **aki** (あき)

Note the great four-kanji compound in the third example below.

kun-yomi suggestion: “**stack easily**”

Create your **on-yomi** keyword and enter it in the table at the back of the book. After that, write your sentence to remember the **on-yomi** and **kun-yomi** readings in the box below.

LESS COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Less common **ON** reading: none

Less common **kun** reading: none

COMMON WORDS AND COMPOUNDS		
秋	<i>autumn</i>	aki あき
立秋	stand + autumn = <i>first day of autumn</i>	RIS·SHŪ リッ・シュウ
春夏 秋冬	spring + summer +	SHUN·KA·SHŪ·TŌ

	autumn + winter = <i>the four seasons; year round</i>	シュン・カ・シュウ・ トウ
秋空	autumn + empty (sky) = <i>autumn sky</i>	aki·zora あき・ぞら
秋分	autumn + part = <i>autumnal equinox</i>	SHŪ·BUN シュウ・ブン

SAMPLE SENTENCE

秋 には 日本 の 山 が 美しい。

aki ni wa NI·HON no yama ga utsuku-shii.

autumn Japan mountain beautiful

= *Japan's mountains are beautiful in autumn.*

WRITING PRACTICE

COMPONENT 116

WHISKEY JUG

It's hard to imagine many whiskey drinkers being happy about the stopper for this jug taking up so much room!

酉 酉

KANJI 116

西 WEST

一 一 一 一 西 西

MEANING

West.

REMEMBERING THIS KANJI

Everyone knows there were a lot of alcohol problems in the wild **WEST**. Fittingly, a drained **whiskey jug** is used to show this.



COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Common **ON** reading: **SEI** (セイ)

Common **kun** reading: **nishi** (にし)

kun-yomi suggestion: “honey shield”

Create your **on-yomi** keyword and enter it in the table at the back of the book. After that, write your sentence to remember the **on-yomi** and **kun-yomi** readings in the box below.

--

LESS COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Less common **ON** reading: **SAI** (サイ)

Less common **kun** reading: none

COMMON WORDS AND COMPOUNDS		
西	<i>west</i>	nishi にし
西口	west + mouth = <i>west exit/entrance</i>	nishi·guchi にし・ぐち
北西	north + west = <i>northwest</i>	HOKU·SEI ホク・セイ
北北西	north + north + west = <i>north-northwest</i>	HOKU·HOKU·SEI ホク・ホク・セイ
南西	south + west = <i>southwest</i>	NAN·SEI ナン・セイ
南南西	south + south + west = <i>south-southwest</i>	NAN·NAN·SEI ナン・ナン・セイ

SAMPLE SENTENCE

nishi·guchi kara de·te chichi ni a·imashita.

= (She) left by the west exit and met her father.

[illegible]

KANJI 117

刀 **WORD**

フ	刀							
---	---	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

MEANING

Sword. No story required.



COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Common **ON** reading: **TŌ** (トウ)

Common **kun** reading: **katana** (かたな)

kun-yomi suggestion: “make a **tan** apple”

Create your **on-yomi** keyword and enter it in the table at the back of the book. After that, write your sentence to remember the **on-yomi** and **kun-yomi** readings in the box below.

--

LESS COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Less common **ON** reading: none

Less common **kun** reading: none

COMMON WORDS AND COMPOUNDS		
刀	<i>sword</i>	katana かたな
刀工	sword + craft = <i>sword maker</i>	TŌ·KŌ トウ・コウ
日本刀	sun + main + sword = <i>Japanese sword</i>	NI·HON·TŌ ニ・ホン・トウ

SAMPLE SENTENCE

先月 東京 で 日本刀 を 買いました。

SEN·GETSU TŌ·KYŌ de NI·HON·TŌ o ka·imashita.

last month Tokyo Japanese sword bought

= *Last month I bought a Japanese sword in Tokyo.*

WRITING PRACTICE					

KANJI 118

切 CUT

一	七	切	切					
BUILDING THIS KANJI								
Seven 七(44) + Sword 刀(117) = 切								

MEANING

Cut. When the **kun-yomi** is used as a suffix it can impart a sense of completely finishing something, or acting in a decisive manner. The final compound provides an example.

REMEMBERING THIS KANJI

Seven samurai means **seven swords**, and **seven swords** can mean trouble on the set:

“For the last time,” said the director, exasperated, “when I yell “**CUT**”, it does *not* mean to **CUT** each other.”



COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Common **ON** reading: **SETSU** (セツ)

Common **kun** reading: **ki** (き)

As can be seen in the fourth example, this is another kanji that behaves like 買.

kun-yomi suggestion: “quiche”

Create your **on-yomi** keyword and enter it in the table at the back of the book. After that, write your sentence to remember the **on-yomi** and **kun-yomi** readings in the box below.

--

LESS COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Less common **ON** reading: **SAI** (サイ)

Less common **kun** reading: none

As the **kun-yomi** of 切 “doubles up” with the kanji following it in this next pair of words, these compounds are best learned as irregular readings.

IRREGULAR READINGS		
切手	cut + hand = <i>postage stamp</i>	kit·te きっ・て
切符*	cut + symbol = <i>ticket</i>	kip·pu きっ・ぷ

COMMON WORDS AND COMPOUNDS		
切れる (intr)	<i>to break (by itself)</i>	ki·reru き・れる
切る (tr)	<i>to cut (something)</i>	ki·ru き・る
切り下げる	cut + lower = <i>to devalue</i>	ki·ri sa·geru き・り さ・げる
	cut + lower	kiri sa·ge

切下げ	= <i>devaluation</i>	きり さ・げ
親切	parent + cut = <i>kindhearted</i>	SHIN·SETSU シン・セツ
大切	large + cut = <i>important</i>	TAI·SETSU タイ・セツ
思い切 る	think + cut = <i>to make up one's mind</i>	omo·i ki·ru おも・い き・る

SAMPLE SENTENCE

水力 と 火力 は 大切 です ね。

SUI·RYOKU to KA·RYOKU wa TAI·SETSU desu ne.

hydro power thermal power important

= *Hydro and thermal power are important, aren't they?*

WRITING PRACTICE					

COMPONENT 119

SQUIRRELS (ON A BRICK WALL)



Why are they hanging out on a brick wall? 'Cause they're tough, that's why.

KANJI 119

曜 DAY OF THE WEEK

丨	冂	日	日	日 ^一	日 ^二	日 ^三	日 ^一 ^二	日 ^一 ^三
日 ^一 ^二 ^三	日 ^二 ^三	日 ^三	日 ^一 ^二	日 ^一 ^三	日 ^二 ^一	日 ^二 ^二	日 ^二 ^三	曜
BUILDING THIS KANJI Sun 日 (6) + Comb 冂 + Comb 冂 + Squirrels 隹 = 曜								

MEANING

Day of the week.

REMEMBERING THIS KANJI

Every **DAY OF THE WEEK** the **squirrels** sit on their brick wall and wait for the **sun** to come up. Once it does, it becomes light enough for each to grab a **comb** and start slicking back his fur in order to look tough. This is always necessary. After all, every **DAY OF THE WEEK** is a struggle if you're a **squirrel**.



COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Common **ON** reading: **YŌ** (ヨウ)

Common **kun** reading: none

Remember that the final kanji in each compound below is read with its **kun-yomi** (in voiced form). Create your **on-yomi** keyword and enter it in the table at the back of the book. After that, write your sentence to remember the **on-yomi** reading in the box below.

LESS COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Less common **ON** reading: none

Less common **kun** reading: none

COMMON WORDS AND COMPOUNDS		
日曜日	sun + day of the week + sun (day) = <i>Sunday</i>	NICHI·YŌ·bi ニチ・ヨウ・ビ
月曜日	moon + day of the week + sun (day) = <i>Monday</i>	GETSU·YŌ·bi ゲツ・ヨウ・ビ
火曜日	fire + day of the week + sun (day)	KA·YŌ·bi カ・ヨウ・ビ

	= <i>Tuesday</i>	
水曜日	water + day of the week + sun (day) = <i>Wednesday</i>	SUI·YŌ·bi スイ・ヨウ・び
木曜日	tree + day of the week + sun (day) = <i>Thursday</i>	MOKU·YŌ·bi モク・ヨウ・び
金曜日	gold + day of the week + sun (day) = <i>Friday</i>	KIN·YŌ·bi キン・ヨウ・び
土曜日	earth + day of the week + sun (day) = <i>Saturday</i>	DO·YŌ·bi ド・ヨウ・び

SAMPLE SENTENCE

土曜日 に パーティー が あります。

DO·YŌ·bi ni pātī ga arimasu.

Saturday party is

= *There's a party on Saturday.*

WRITING PRACTICE

KANJI 120

周 AROUND

丿	冂	冂	冂	冂	冂	冂	冂	
BUILDING THIS KANJI								
Gorilla 冂 + Earth 土(87) + Mouth (vampire) 口(8) = 周								

MEANING

“Around”, as in the sense of a lap or circuit.

REMEMBERING THIS KANJI

If a **gorilla** and **vampire** show up at your local square dance, you'd best be gettin' outta their way. Reason being that they'll spin **AROUND** and **AROUND**, trampling the **earth** and anything else that gets between 'em. Yup, there's no gettin' **AROUND** it: they ain't exactly graceful.



COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Common **ON** reading: SHŪ (シュウ)

Common **kun** reading: none

Create your **on-yomi** keyword and enter it in the table at the back of the

book. After that, write your sentence to remember the **on-yomi** reading in the box below.

LESS COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Less common **ON** reading: none

Less common **kun** reading: none

COMMON WORDS AND COMPOUNDS		
円周	circle + around = <i>circumference</i>	EN·SHŪ エン・シュウ
周回	around + rotate = <i>going around</i>	SHŪ·KAI シュウ・カイ
一周	one + around = <i>once around</i>	IS·SHŪ イツ・シュウ

SAMPLE SENTENCE

寺田さん は ニュージーランド を 一周 しました。

Tera·da-san wa Nyūjīrando o IS·SHŪ shimashita.

Terada-san New Zealand once around did

= *Terada-san did a circuit of New Zealand.*

WRITING PRACTICE					

CHAPTER 6 REVIEW EXERCISES

A. Please match the following kanji to their meanings.

- | | |
|-------|--------------|
| 1. 立 | a. Bird |
| 2. 星 | b. Autumn |
| 3. 切 | c. Star |
| 4. 鳥 | d. Temple |
| 5. 秋 | e. Outside |
| 6. 外 | f. Stand |
| 7. 美 | g. Cut |
| 8. 先 | h. West |
| 9. 寺 | i. Beautiful |
| 10. 西 | j. Precede |

B. Please match the following meanings to their kanji, and these to their **on** or **kun-yomi**.

- | | | |
|--------------------|------|------------------------|
| 1. Island | a. 刀 | 1. ZU (ズ) |
| 2. Parent | b. 図 | 2. oya (おや) |
| 3. Day of the week | c. 寸 | 3. SHŪ (シュウ) |
| 4. Tiny | d. 夕 | 4. shita (した) |
| 5. Sword | e. 開 | 5. katana (かたな) |
| 6. Around | f. 親 | 6. YŌ (ヨウ) |
| 7. Evening | g. 舌 | 7. shima (しま) |
| 8. Open | h. 曜 | 8. yū (ゆう) |

9. Tongue

i. 島 9. **a** (あ)

10. Diagram

j. 周 10. **SUN** (スン)

C. Please choose the best answer(s) to the following questions.

1. Which of the following readings apply to the kanji 鳥?

- a. **AI** (アイ)
- b. **tori** (とり)
- c. **hoshi** (ほし)
- d. **SHŪ** (シュウ)
- e. **CHŌ** (チョウ)

2. Which of the following readings apply to the kanji 星?

- a. **SEI** (セイ)
- b. **soto** (そと)
- c. **BUN** (ブン)
- d. **hoshi** (ほし)
- e. **ZU** (ズ)

3. Which of the following presents the greatest danger to a newly-washed car?

- a. 夕
- b. 星
- c. 鳥
- d. 外
- e. 舌

4. Which of the following readings apply to the kanji 秋?

- a. **BI** (ビ)
- b. **a** (あ)

- c. **tera** (てら)
- d. **SHŪ** (シュウ)
- e. **aki** (あき)

5. Which of the following readings apply to the kanji 先?

- a. **saki** (さき)
- b. **YŌ** (ヨウ)
- c. **SEN** (セン)
- d. **yū** (ゆう)
- e. **JI** (ジ)

D. Please choose the best answer(s) to the following questions.

1. Which is the correct reading of 美しい?

- a. **ara•shii** (あら•しい)
- b. **tama•shii** (たま•しい)
- c. **mawa•shii** (まわ•しい)
- d. **utsuku•shii** (うつく•しい)

2. Which answer best captures the meaning of the compound 月曜日?

- a. Sunday
- b. Thursday
- c. Monday
- d. Saturday
- e. All of the preceding

3. Which of the following kanji has the most number of strokes?

- a. 開
- b. 鳥
- c. 美
- d. 秋

e. 星

4. Which is the correct reading of 立つ?

- a. **ta·tsu** (た・つ)
- b. **u·tsu** (う・つ)
- c. **ma·tsu** (ま・つ)
- d. **ka·tsu** (か・つ)

5. Which are the correct readings of 開く? (There are two possible answers.)

- a. **o·ku** (お・く)
- b. **a·ku** (あ・く)
- c. **ama·ku** (あま・く)
- d. **hira·ku** (ひら・く)

E. Please match the following compounds and words to their meanings and pronunciations.

- | | | |
|--------|--------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 1. 木曜日 | a. Setting sun | 1. SHIN·SETSU
(シン・セツ) |
| 2. 自立 | b. Mars (planet) | 2. HAN·TŌ
(ハン・トウ) |
| 3. 親切 | c. Beautiful woman | 3. MOKU·YŌ·bi
(モク・ヨウ・び) |
| 4. 先生 | d. Independence | 4. yū·hi
(ゆう・ひ) |
| 5. 西口 | e. Foreigner | 5. nishi·guchi
(にし・ぐち) |
| 6. 火星 | f. Peninsula | 6. KA·SEI
(カ・セイ) |
| | g. Thursday | 7. SEN·SEI |

7. 夕日		(セン・セイ)
8. 外国人	h. Kindhearted	8. GAI-KOKU-JIN (ガイ・コク・ジン)
9. 半島	i. West exit/ entrance	9. BI-JIN (ビ・ジン)
10. 美人	j. Teacher	10. JI-RITSU (ジ・リツ)

CHAPTER 7 (KANJI 121-140)

KANJI 121

読 READ

丶	一	二	三	言	言	言	言一	言十
言	言	言	言	読				
BUILDING THIS KANJI Say 言(80) + Sell 売(92) = 読								

MEANING

Read.

REMEMBERING THIS KANJI

The sales manager rose to address her staff. It was time for the **READING**.

“And lo, I **say** unto you who **sell**,” she intoned. “**READ** carefully the customer’s face. **READ** their gestures and clothes. But **READ** not, I **say**, our price protection guarantee; this let them **READ** for themselves.”



COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Common **ON** reading: **DOKU** (ドク)

Common **kun** reading: **yo** (よ)

kun-yomi suggestion: “yoga”

Create your **on-yomi** keyword and enter it in the table at the back of the book. After that, write your sentence to remember the **on-yomi** and **kun-yomi** readings in the box below.

--

LESS COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Less common **ON** readings: **TOKU** (トク); **TŌ** (トウ)

Less common **kun** reading: none

COMMON WORDS AND COMPOUNDS		
読む	<i>to read</i>	yo•mu よ・む
読み切 る	read + cut <i>= to finish reading</i>	yo•mi ki•ru よ・み き・る
読者	read + individual <i>= reader</i>	DOKU•SHA ドク・シャ
読み物	read + thing <i>= reading matter</i>	yo•mi mono よ・み もの
多読家	many + read + house <i>= well-read person</i>	TA•DOKU•KA タ・ドク・カ

SAMPLE SENTENCE

この 古い 本 を 読んでいます か。

kono furu·i HON o yo·nde imasu ka.

this old book are reading

= *Are you reading this old book?*

WRITING PRACTICE					

COMPONENT 122

SEAL



KANJI 122

道 ROAD

丶	㇀	一	𠂇	𠂉	𠂊	𠂋	𠂌	𠂍
首	道	道						
BUILDING THIS KANJI Neck 首(54) + Seal 𠂉 = 道								

MEANING

Road/Way. This interesting kanji can signify both a physical road and a spiritual “path”. In this latter sense it is often translated as “the way”.

REMEMBERING THIS KANJI

Being so poor growing up, we had to use our imaginations when it came time for fun. That’s why it was so lucky for us when the **seal** washed up on the beach that day; once some yellow lines were painted down the back of its **neck**, we had ourselves a nice **ROAD** on which to race our toys. And did we ever get good mileage out of that **ROAD**! We played on it for ages, and only quit using it when our wheels started getting stuck.



COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Common **ON** reading: **DŌ** (ドウ)

Common **kun** reading: **michi** (みち)

kun-yomi suggestion: “give me cheese”

Create your **on-yomi** keyword and enter it in the table at the back of the book. After that, write your sentence to remember the **on-yomi** and **kun-yomi** readings in the box below.

LESS COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Less common **ON** reading: **TŌ** (トウ)

Less common **kun** reading: none

TŌ is extremely rare, although it is found in a common word formed by the characters “God” and “Road” to indicate the Japanese religion Shinto (神道*): **SHIN·TŌ** (シン・トウ).

COMMON WORDS AND COMPOUNDS		
道	<i>road; way</i>	michi みち
	small + road	ko·michi

小道	= <i>path</i>	こ・みち
水道	water + road = <i>water supply system</i>	SUI・DŌ スイ・ドウ
下水道	lower + water + road = <i>sewer system</i>	GE・SUI・DŌ ゲ・スイ・ドウ
歩道	walk + road = <i>sidewalk</i>	HO・DŌ ホ・ドウ
国道	country + road = <i>national highway</i>	KOKU・DŌ コク・ドウ

SAMPLE SENTENCE

あの 国 に は 安全 な 水道水 が ありません。

ano kuni ni wa AN・ZEN na SUI・DŌ・SUI ga arimasen.

that country safe tap water isn't

= *There is no safe tap water in that country.*

WRITING PRACTICE

KANJI 123

天 HEAVEN

一	=	𠂇	天					
BUILDING THIS KANJI								
One (top of a bun) 一(3) + Large (sumo wrestler) 大(17) = 天								

MEANING

Heaven/The heavens. This character can indicate both the spiritual sense of heaven as well as the more down to earth notions of sky and air.

REMEMBERING THIS KANJI

The Japanese believe that **sumo wrestlers** in **HEAVEN** live in mansions built of food. The ceilings of these are made from the **tops of buns** that exude various types of mustards and sauces when they leak. Such living conditions must truly be **HEAVEN** for a **sumo wrestler**.



COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Common **ON** reading: **TEN** (テン)

Common **kun** reading: none

Note how the **on-yomi** for “country” (国) is voiced in the first example below. One more curiosity occurs in the fourth compound; in this word, note how 天 changes the **on-yomi** of “king” from Ō (オウ) to NŌ (ノウ) in order to make the pronunciation smoother. This type of phonetic change is extremely rare. Note that the sample sentence contains an irregular reading (明日).

Create your **on-yomi** keyword and enter it in the table at the back of the book. After that, write your sentence to remember the **on-yomi** reading in the box below.

--

LESS COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Less common **ON** reading: none

Less common **kun** readings: **ame** (あめ); **ama** (あま)

COMMON WORDS AND COMPOUNDS		
天国	heaven + country = <i>heaven</i>	TEN·GOKU テン・ゴク
天下	heaven + lower = <i>the whole land</i>	TEN·KA テン・カ
天体	heaven + body = <i>heavenly body</i>	TEN·TAI テン・タイ
天王星	heaven + king + star = <i>Uranus (planet)</i>	TEN·NŌ·SEI テン・ノウ・セイ
天気	heaven + spirit = <i>the weather</i>	TEN·KI テン・キ

SAMPLE SENTENCE

--

= *It seems the weather will be rainy tomorrow.*

[illegible]

KANJI 124

分 PART

ノ	ハ	分	分					
BUILDING THIS KANJI								
Eight (volcano) 八(19) + Sword 刀(117) = 分								

MEANING

This important character suggests the ideas of “dividing” and “portion”. It appears in a wide range of words, but the sense of division is always present in some way; the first example below, for instance, can be thought of as “parting” the unknown to arrive at understanding.

REMEMBERING THIS KANJI

Modern scientists may scoff at the notion, but a lot of people still believe that **volcanoes** show how the underground dwellers made their way to the surface. By **PARTING** the rock and magma with **swords** on the way up, it is thought, they created the **volcanoes** we have today. Though the kanji clearly shows a **sword** beneath the missing **PART** of a **volcano**, it is impossible to verify this theory until the underground dwellers themselves shed more light on their past.



COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Common **ON** reading: **BUN** (ブン)

Common **kun** reading: **wa** (わ)

kun-yomi suggestion: “wacky”

Create your **on-yomi** keyword and enter it in the table at the back of the book. After that, write your sentence to remember the **on-yomi** and **kun-yomi** readings in the box below.

--

LESS COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Less common **ON** readings: **FUN** (フン); **BU** (ブ)

Less common **kun** reading: none

As these readings are both used following numbers, it is important to know the context in which each is employed. **FUN** relates to minutes (of time or arc), as in the example 五分 **GO·FUN** (ゴ・フン): five minutes. **BU** deals with percentages and rates; 五分 in this sense would be pronounced **GO·BU** (ゴ・ブ), and mean either five (or fifty) percent. It merits learning the words for minutes as irregular readings, as they will be needed for telling time.

Note also that 大分 **DAI·BUN** (ダイ・ブン), one of many Japanese words expressing the idea of “much” or “very”, is often pronounced **DAI·BU** (ダイ・ブ).

COMMON WORDS AND COMPOUNDS		
分かる (intr)	<i>to understand</i>	wa·karu わ・かる
分ける (tr)	<i>to part; to divide</i>	wa·keru わ・ける
	self + part	JI·BUN

自分	= <i>oneself</i>	ジ・ブン
半分	half + part = <i>half</i>	HAN・BUN ハン・ブン
春分	spring + part = <i>vernal equinox</i>	SHUN・BUN シュン・ブン
秋分	autumn + part = <i>autumnal equinox</i>	SHŪ・BUN シュウ・ブン

SAMPLE SENTENCE

日本語 が 分かります か。

NI・HON・GO ga wa・karimasu ka.

Japanese understand

= *Do you understand Japanese?*

WRITING PRACTICE					

COMPONENT 125

STOOPING

勿 勿

Labor Code regulations require the following disclaimer be inserted: “This is not an appropriate method of lifting heavy objects.”

KANJI 125

物 **THING**

ノ	レ	牛	牛	牛	物	物	物	
BUILDING THIS KANJI								
Cow 牛(100) + Stooping 勿 = 物								

MEANING

Thing/Object. Note that the writing order for “cow” differs when it is used as a component; slanting the final stroke upward makes for a smoother transition to the next part of the character.

REMEMBERING THIS KANJI

“What’s that **THING**?” asked a guy **stooping** next to a **cow**.

“That’s my tail,” said the **cow**, irritated.

“And what’s that **THING**?”

“It’s a hoof, OK?” Everyone knows it’s a hoof.”

“And what about those **THINGS**?”

“What?! How dare you **stoop** so low as to question me about my udder!”

Though **THINGS** had started out well, relations between **cows** and tourists had slowly become strained.

ノ	ト	牛	牛	牛	物	物	物	
BUILDING THIS KANJI Cow 牛(100) + Stooping 勿 = 物								

COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Common **ON** reading: **BUTSU** (ブツ)

Common **kun** reading: **mono** (ものの)

Pronunciation-wise, this is a tough kanji to pin down; both readings are found extensively, and there are no easy rules to fall back on as to when each is used in compounds. This is a character that has to be taken on a word-for-word basis.

kun-yomi suggestion: “**moan over**”

Create your **on-yomi** keyword and enter it in the table at the back of the book. After that, write your sentence to remember the **on-yomi** and **kun-yomi** readings in the box below.

--

LESS COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Less common **ON** reading: **MOTSU** (モツ)

Less common **kun** reading: none

COMMON WORDS AND COMPOUNDS		
物	<i>thing</i>	mono もの
買い物	buy + thing	ka·i mono

	= <i>shopping</i>	かい もの
読み物	read + thing = <i>reading matter</i>	yo·mi mono よ·み もの
人物	person + thing = <i>one's character</i>	JIN·BUTSU ジン·ブツ
見物	see + thing = <i>sightseeing</i>	KEN·BUTSU ケン·ブツ
物体	thing + body = <i>an object</i>	BUT·TAI ブツ·タイ

SAMPLE SENTENCE

本田さん は どんな 人物 です か。

Hon·da-san wa donna JIN·BUTSU desu ka.

Honda-san what kind of character

= *What kind of person is Honda-san?*

WRITING PRACTICE

--	--	--	--	--	--

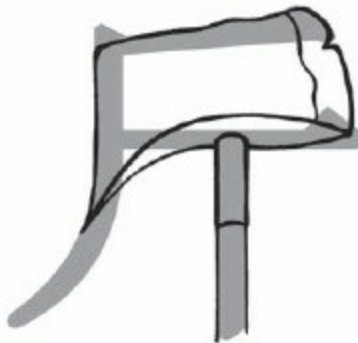
KANJI 126

斤 **AXE**

丶	丿	𠂇	斤					
---	---	---	---	--	--	--	--	--

MEANING

Axe. Though rarely encountered on its own, this character serves as a component in several important kanji (an example being Entry [127](#)). No story required.



COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Common **ON** reading: **KIN** (キン)

Common **kun** reading: none

Create your **on-yomi** keyword and enter it in the table at the back of the book. After that, write your sentence to remember the **on-yomi** reading in the box below.

--

LESS COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Less common **ON** reading: none

Less common **kun** reading: none

COMMON WORDS AND COMPOUNDS		
斤	axe = <i>axe</i>	KIN キン

SAMPLE SENTENCE

“斤”が読めますか。

“**KIN**” **ga yo•memasu ka.**

KIN can read

= *Can you read “斤”?*

WRITING PRACTICE

[illegible]

KANJI 127

新 NEW

丶	一	亠	宀	立	立	辛	亲	亲
亲	新	新	新					
BUILDING THIS KANJI Stand 立(112) + Tree 木(13) + Axe 斤(126) = 新								

MEANING

New.

REMEMBERING THIS KANJI

Standing in the **tree**, I felt safe from the **axe**-wielding maniac.

“Come on down,” he said. “I’ll give you my **axe**.”

I thought about this for a moment and realized I needed to split some wood behind the barn. “Is it **NEW**?” I asked warily.

“Brand **NEW**,” he said. “I just got it.”

“What’s that stuff on the blade, then?”

“Oh, that? That’s from the wrapper. Trust me, it’s totally **NEW**.”

“Well, OK then,” I said, climbing down from the **tree**. I suppose you can’t hurt me if you don’t have your **axe**.”



COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Common **ON** reading: **SHIN** (シン)

Common **kun** reading: **atara** (あたら)

kun-yomi suggestion: “**at a raffle**”

Create your **on-yomi** keyword and enter it in the table at the back of the book. After that, write your sentence to remember the **on-yomi** and **kun-yomi** readings in the box below.

--

LESS COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Less common **ON** reading: none

Less common **kun** readings: **arata** (あらた); **nii** (にい)

COMMON WORDS AND COMPOUNDS		
新しい	<i>new</i>	atara ·shii あたら·しい
一新	one + new = <i>complete renewal</i>	IS · SHIN イッ·シン
新月	new + moon = <i>new moon</i>	SHIN ·GETSU シン·ゲツ
新星	new + star = <i>nova</i>	SHIN ·SEI シン·セイ
最新	most + new = <i>newest</i>	SAI · SHIN サイ·シン

SAMPLE SENTENCE

新しい 日本刀 を 買いました。

atara·shii NI·HON·TŌ o ka·imashita.

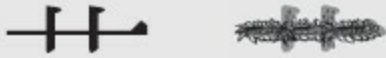
new Japanese sword bought

= *(I) bought a new Japanese sword.*

WRITING PRACTICE					

COMPONENT 128

WREATH



This component figures prominently in characters related to grasses and plants.

KANJI 128

花 FLOWER

一	ナ	ナ	ナ	ナ	ナ	花		
BUILDING THIS KANJI								
Wreath ナ + Change 化(69) = 花								

MEANING

Flower.

REMEMBERING THIS KANJI

Crowned with a **wreath**, Caesar strode into Rome.

“Everything has **changed**,” whispered a senator. “Look how the masses throw **FLOWERS**! It bodes ill.”

“Perhaps,” said another, slowly “But the **FLOWERS** in that **wreath** – be they sweet smelling roses – will also **change**, and become as these that are now trampled underfoot.”



COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Common **ON** reading: **KA** (カ)

Common **kun** reading: **hana** (はな)

As the second example below shows, **hana** can become voiced when not in the first position. Also note the interesting juxtaposition of characters in the fourth and fifth examples as well as the irregular reading (上手) used in the sample sentence.

kun-yomi suggestion: “**Han** amulet”

Create your **on-yomi** keyword and enter it in the table at the back of the book. After that, write your sentence to remember the **on-yomi** and **kun-yomi** readings in the box below.

LESS COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Less common **ON** reading: none

Less common **kun** reading: none

COMMON WORDS AND COMPOUNDS		
花	<i>flower</i>	hana はな

生け花	life + flower = <i>flower arrangement</i>	i·ke bana い・け ばな
花見	flower + see = <i>cherry blossom viewing</i>	hana·mi はな・み
花火	flower + fire = <i>fireworks</i>	hana·bi はな・び
火花	fire + flower = <i>sparks</i>	hi· bana ひ・ばな
開花	open + flower = <i>bloom</i>	KAI·KA カイ・カ

SAMPLE SENTENCE

西田さん は 生け花 が 上手 です ね。

Nishi·da san wa i·ke bana ga JŌ·zu desu ne.

Nishida-san ikebana good at

= *Nishida-san is good at ikebana isn't (she)?*

WRITING PRACTICE					

KANJI 129

名 NAME

ノ	夕	夕	夕	名	名			
BUILDING THIS KANJI								
Evening 夕 (108) + “Mouth (vampire) 口 (8) = 名								

MEANING

Name. By extension, this kanji also includes the ideas of “reputation” and “fame”.

REMEMBERING THIS KANJI

Dracula, of course, is a **vampire** whose **NAME** is synonymous with **evening**. This is the real reason he comes out only then; his **NAME** and reputation would suffer, after all, if someone were to spot him at a coffee shop in broad daylight.



COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Common **ON** reading: **MEI** (メ イ)

Common **kun** reading: **na** (ナ)

kun-yomi suggestion: “**napkin**”

Create your **on-yomi** keyword and enter it in the table at the back of the book. After that, write your sentence to remember the **on-yomi** and **kun-yomi** readings in the box below.

--

LESS COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Less common **ON** reading: **MYŌ** (ミ ヨ ウ)

Less common **kun** reading: none

COMMON WORDS AND COMPOUNDS		
名高い	name + tall = <i>renowned</i>	na daka·i な だか・い
有名	have + name = <i>famous</i>	YŪ·MEI ユウ・メイ
名山	name + mountain = <i>famous mountain</i>	MEI·ZAN メイ・ザン
名物	name + thing = <i>famous regional product</i>	MEI·BUTSU メイ・ブツ
名前	name + before = <i>name</i>	na·mae な・まえ

SAMPLE SENTENCE

日本 の 名山 の 一つ を 見ました か。

NI·HON no MEI·ZAN no hito·tsu o mi·mashita ka.

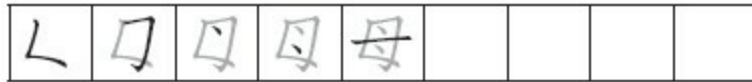
Japan famous mountains one seen

= *Have you seen one of Japan's famous mountains?*

WRITING PRACTICE					

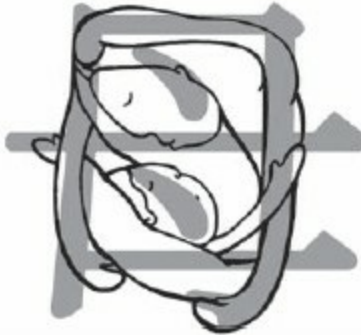
KANJI 130

母 MOTHER



MEANING

Mother. No story required.



COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Common **ON** reading: **BO** (ボ)

Common **kun** reading: **haha** (はは)

As with the kanji for father (Entry [79](#)), the variety of words for mother shown below reflect different levels of familiarity and politeness.

kun-yomi suggestion: “**Ha! Ha!**”

Create your **on-yomi** keyword and enter it in the table at the back of the book. After that, write your sentence to remember the **on-yomi** and **kun-yomi** readings in the box below.

--

LESS COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Less common **ON** reading: none

Less common **kun** reading: none

These two irregular readings correspond to those we learned earlier for “father”.

IRREGULAR READINGS		
お母さん	<i>mother</i>	okāsan おかあさん
伯母さん*	related + mother = <i>aunt</i>	obasan おばさん

COMMON WORDS AND COMPOUNDS		
母	<i>mother</i>	haha はは
母親	mother + parent = <i>mother</i>	haha·oya はは・おや
母国語	mother + country + words = <i>mother tongue</i>	BO·KOKU·GO ボ・コク・ゴ
母の日	mother + sun (day) = <i>Mother's Day</i>	haha·no·hi はは・の・ひ
父母	father + mother = <i>father and mother</i>	FU·BO フ・ボ

SAMPLE SENTENCE

新しい 先生 の 母国語 は 英語 です。

atara·shii SEN·SEI no BO·KOKU·GO wa EI·GO desu.

new teacher mother tongue English

= *The new teacher's mother tongue is English.*

WRITING PRACTICE					

COMPONENT 131

BROKEN CRUTCH



Although this component appears to have three strokes, it is actually written with two; this is shown in the following kanji.

KANJI 131

私 PRIVATE

一	二	千	禾	禾	私	私		
BUILDING THIS KANJI Crops 禾 + Broken Crutch 厶 = 私								

MEANING

Private. This character is also used for the first person singular, “I”.

REMEMBERING THIS KANJI

Nobody could figure out what was going on with the **crops**. The oats were acting wilder than ever, and rumor had it that gangs of wheat were causing trouble amongst the barley. **PRIVATELY** we began to worry about the harvest, especially when stalks of rye began showing up with bruises and **broken crutches**. Several of us tried to ask the **crops** what was going on, but nobody got very far. “What happens between us **crops** is none of your business,” they always replied. “It’s **PRIVATE**, you got that? **PRIVATE!**”



COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Common **ON** reading: **SHI** (シ)

Common **kun** reading: **watashi** (わたし)

kun-yomi suggestion: “**what a sheer**”

Create your **on-yomi** keyword and enter it in the table at the back of the book. After that, write your sentence to remember the **on-yomi** and **kun-yomi** readings in the box below.

LESS COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Less common **ON** reading: none

Less common **kun** reading: **watakushi** (わたくし)

COMMON WORDS AND COMPOUNDS		
私	<i>I</i>	watashi わたし
私有	private + have = <i>privately owned</i>	SHI·YŪ シ・ユウ
私道	private + road = <i>private road</i>	SHI·DŌ シ・ドウ

私物	private + thing = <i>private property</i>	SHI·BUTSU シ・ブツ
私学	private + study = <i>private school</i>	SHI·GAKU シ・ガク

SAMPLE SENTENCE

私 は 本 を 読んでいます。

watashi wa HON o yo·nde imasu.

I book reading

= *I'm reading a book.*

WRITING PRACTICE					

KANJI 132

夜 NIGHT

'	一	𠂇	亅	𠂇	𠂇	𠂇	𠂇	𠂇
BUILDING THIS KANJI								
Police 一 + Giraffe 𠂇 + Evening 夕 (108) + Comet 一								
= 夜								

MEANING

Night. Make sure to write this character in the order given.

REMEMBERING THIS KANJI

After a long day policing the savanna, the **ranger** went to her local watering hole for a drink. Surprisingly, the **giraffes** were already there, and seemed well on the way to making a **NIGHT** of it.

“It’s safe to come here the moment a **comet** is visible in the **evening**,” said one, slurring over a gin and tonic. “That means it’s **NIGHT**, and dark enough so that nothing can hunt.”

“I wouldn’t be so sure about that,” said the **ranger**. “The leopards I just passed on the way over didn’t look like they were coming here for a **NIGHTCAP**.”



COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Common **ON** reading: **YA** (ヤ)

Common **kun** reading: **yoru** (よる); **yo** (よ)

yoru is only used when this kanji appears alone; **yo** and **YA** are distributed evenly through compounds.

kun-yomi suggestions: “**you’re oozing**”; “**yogurt**”

Create your **on-yomi** keyword and enter it in the table at the back of the book. After that, write your sentence to remember the **on-yomi** and **kun-yomi** readings in the box below.

--

LESS COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Less common **ON** reading: none

Less common **kun** reading: none

COMMON WORDS AND COMPOUNDS		
夜	<i>night</i>	yoru よる
夜中	night + middle = <i>middle of the night</i>	yo·naka よ・なか
夜明け	night + bright = <i>dawn</i>	yo a·ke よ あ・け
月夜	moon + night = <i>moonlit night</i>	tsuki·yo つき・よ
夜間	night + interval = <i>night time</i>	YA·KAN ヤ・カン

SAMPLE SENTENCE

夜明け に 家 を 出ました。

yo a·ke ni ie o de·mashita.

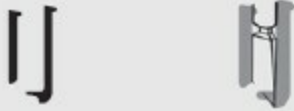
dawn house exit

= *I left the house at dawn.*

WRITING PRACTICE					

COMPONENT 133

CHISEL



KANJI 133

前 BEFORE

丶	丿	一	𠂇	𠂇	𠂇	𠂇	𠂇	𠂇
BUILDING THIS KANJI								
Snowboard 𠂇 + Moon 月 (11) + Chisel 𠂇 = 前								

MEANING

Before/Front. It is worth comparing the compounds below to those for “先” (Entry [105](#)) to get a sense of the subtle differences between these two characters.

REMEMBERING THIS KANJI

We all know that a waxing **moon** comes **BEFORE** a full **moon**, but how many know where the expression “waxing **moon**” originated? It’s an interesting story, in that the **moon** used to work at a **snowboard** shop long **BEFORE** he took his place in the sky. Using a **chisel**, he would wax the **snowboards** as carefully as possible, trying not to let the **chisel** slip and add yet another crater to his face. He was, by all accounts, a conscientious worker, one who always reminded customers to prep their boards **BEFORE** they hit the slopes.



COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Common **ON** reading: **ZEN** (ゼン)

Common **kun** reading: **mae** (まえ)

kun-yomi suggestion: “llama ate”

Create your **on-yomi** keyword and enter it in the table at the back of the book. After that, write your sentence to remember the **on-yomi** and **kun-yomi** readings in the box below.

LESS COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Less common **ON** reading: none

Less common **kun** reading: none

COMMON WORDS AND COMPOUNDS		
前	<i>before</i>	mae まえ
名前	name + before = <i>name</i>	na•mae な・まえ
手前	hand + before = <i>this side of</i>	te•mae て・まえ

前半	before + half = <i>first half</i>	ZEN•HAN ゼン・ハン
前者	before + individual = <i>the former</i>	ZEN•SHA ゼン・シャ
午前	noon + before = <i>A.M.; morning</i>	GO•ZEN ゴ・ゼン

SAMPLE SENTENCE

門 の 前 に 美 しい 花 が あり ます。

MON no mae ni utsuku-shii hana ga arimasu.

gate before beautiful flower are

= *There are beautiful flowers in front of the gate.*

WRITING PRACTICE

KANJI 134

多 MANY

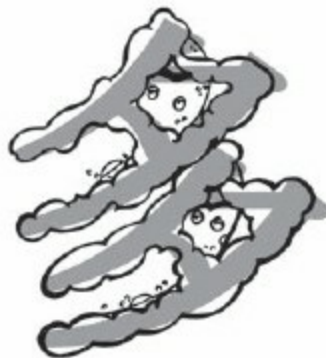
ノ	夕	夕	夕	多	多			
BUILDING THIS KANJI Evening 夕 (108) + Evening 夕 (108) = 多								

MEANING

Many/Much.

REMEMBERING THIS KANJI

Evening after evening, MANY evenings ago, something happened...to MANY.



COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Common **ON** reading: TA (夕)

Common **kun** reading: ō (おお)

kun-yomi suggestion: “oboe”

Create your **on-yomi** keyword and enter it in the table at the back of the book. After that, write your sentence to remember the **on-yomi** and **kun-**

yomi readings in the box below.

--

LESS COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Less common **ON** reading: none

Less common **kun** reading: none

COMMON WORDS AND COMPOUNDS		
多い	<i>many</i>	ō·i おお·い
多少	many + few = <i>more or less</i>	TA·SHŌ タ·シ ョ ウ
多分	many + part = <i>perhaps</i>	TA·BUN タ·ブン
多大	many + large = <i>great quantity</i>	TA·DAI タ·ダイ
多読家	many + read + house = <i>well-read person</i>	TA·DOKU·KA タ·ドク·カ

SAMPLE SENTENCE

この 国 には お金 が 大好き な 人 が 多い。

kono kuni ni wa o kane ga DAI su·ki na hito ga ō·i.

this country money really like person many

= *In this country, there are a lot of people who really like money.*

WRITING PRACTICE					

KANJI 135

持 HOLD

一	扌	扌	扌	扌	扌	扌	持	持
BUILDING THIS KANJI								
Finger 扌 + Temple 寺(104) = 持								

MEANING

Hold/Possess.

REMEMBERING THIS KANJI

I saw a **finger** emerge from a **temple** I was passing one day. “**HOLD** me,” came a shaky voice from behind a curtain.

For some reason, I decided not to.



COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Common **ON** reading: none

Common **kun** reading: **mo** (も)

As the fourth example below shows, this kanji can act like 買.

kun-yomi suggestion: “**mocha**”

Create your sentence to remember the **kun-yomi** reading in the box below.

LESS COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Less common **ON** reading: **JI** (ジ)

Less common **kun** reading: none

COMMON WORDS AND COMPOUNDS		
持つ	<i>to hold</i>	mo·tsu も・つ
金持ち	gold + hold = <i>rich person</i>	kane mo·chi かね も・ち
持ち上 げる	hold + upper = <i>to lift up</i>	mo·chi a·geru も・ち あ・げる
持物	hold + thing = <i>one's belongings</i>	mochi·mono もち・もの
気持ち	spirit + hold = <i>feeling</i>	KI mo·chi キ も・ち

SAMPLE SENTENCE

雪男 は 田中さん を 持ち上げました。

yuki-otoko wa Tanaka-san o mo·chia·gemashita.

The Abominable Snowman Tanaka-san lifted up

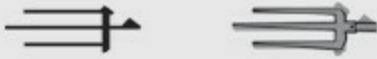
= *The Abominable Snowman lifted up Tanaka-san.*

WRITING PRACTICE

[illegible]

COMPONENT 136

PITCHFORK



Fittingly for a pitchfork, this component will always be stabbing through at least one other line in the kanji. The next entry provides an example.

KANJI 136

書 WRITE

フ	𠂇	𠂇	𠂇	𠂇	𠂇	𠂇	𠂇	𠂇
書								
BUILDING THIS KANJI Pitchfork 𠂇 + Two 二(4) + Pole + Sun 日(6) = 書								

MEANING

Write. This character has to do with all things related to writing, and can suggest such things as books, notes, documents, and calligraphy, amongst others.

REMEMBERING THIS KANJI

Even if you dip them in ink, it is simply not possible to **WRITE** the Japanese kanji for “**two**” using a **pitchfork** (it makes a triple line) or a **pole** (a single line). Using the **sun** is even worse; it burns the paper and is thus unsuitable for any kind of **WRITING**.



COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Common **ON** reading: **SHO** (𐰇 𐰍)

Common **kun** reading: **ka** (カ)

The third and fifth examples below show how this kanji can act like 買. Be aware that the **kun-yomi** is always voiced when it appears in the second position, as it is in the final compound.

kun-yomi suggestion: “calendar”

Create your **on-yomi** keyword and enter it in the table at the back of the book. After that, write your sentence to remember the **on-yomi** and **kun-yomi** readings in the box below.

LESS COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Less common **ON** reading: none

Less common **kun** reading: none

COMMON WORDS AND COMPOUNDS		
書く	<i>to write</i>	ka·ku カ・ク
	write + enter	ka·ki i·reru

書き入 れる	= <i>to write in</i>	か・き い・れる
書入れ	write + enter = <i>an entry</i>	kaki i-re かき い・れ
書道	write + road = <i>calligraphy</i>	SHO·DŌ ショ・ドウ
前書	before + write = <i>preface</i>	mae·gaki まえ・がき

SAMPLE SENTENCE

お名前 を こちら へ 書いて 下さい。

o na·mae o kochira e ka·ite kuda·sai.

name here write please

= *Please write your name here.*

WRITING PRACTICE					

KANJI 137

音 SOUND

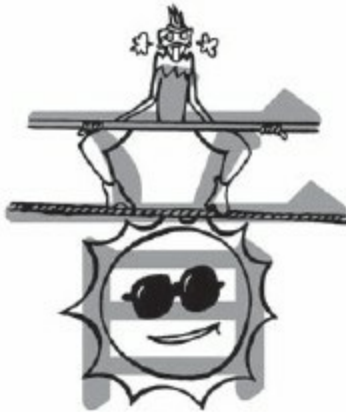
丶	一	𠂇	𠂇	立	音	音	音	音
BUILDING THIS KANJI Stand 立(112) + Sun 日(6) = 音								

MEANING

Sound.

REMEMBERING THIS KANJI

Crackling, sizzling, hissing...it's easy, unfortunately, to imagine the **SOUNDS** that would be produced if someone were **standing** on the **sun**.



COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Common **ON** reading: **ON** (オン)

Common **kun** reading: **oto** (おと)

Although it is a mixture of **on-** and **kun-yomi**, the second example below is probably very familiar to you by now. Note also how the meaning of the

same compound changes in the example following this, when both kanji are read with their on-yomi.

kun-yomi suggestion: “guano **toast**”

Create your **on-yomi** keyword and enter it in the table at the back of the book. After that, write your sentence to remember the **on-yomi** and **kun-yomi** readings in the box below.

--

LESS COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Less common **ON** reading: **IN** (イン)

Less common **kun** reading: **ne** (ね)

COMMON WORDS AND COMPOUNDS		
音	<i>sound</i>	oto おと
音読み	sound + read = <i>the on-yomi</i>	ON yo·mi オン よ·み
音読	sound + read = <i>reading aloud</i>	ON·DOKU オン·ドク
物音	thing + sound = <i>a noise</i>	mono·oto もの·おと
足音	leg + sound = <i>sound of footsteps</i>	ashi·oto あし·おと

SAMPLE SENTENCE

あれは水の音だと思ひます。

are wa mizu no oto da to omo·imasu.

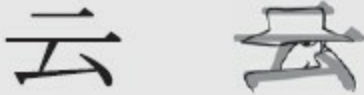
that water sound think

= *(I) think that's the sound of water.*

WRITING PRACTICE					

COMPONENT 138

SPY



As with the broken crutch in , the bottom of this component is written with two strokes, not three.

KANJI 138

会 MEET

ノ	人	人	人	人	人			
BUILDING THIS KANJI Umbrella 人 + SPY 云 = 会								

MEANING

Meet/Meeting. When found at the end of compounds, this kanji often expresses English words such as “society”, “association” and “party”.

REMEMBERING THIS KANJI

“What’s with the **umbrella**?” she asked on **MEETING** the **spy**, looking around nervously.

“What do you mean?”

“What do I mean!? The weather’s perfect, so why in the world are you under an **umbrella**? Everyone’s staring at us!”

“That’s enough!” interrupted the **spy**. “You obviously don’t know the rules; if you **MEET** a **spy**, you **MEET** under an **umbrella**. Everyone knows it’s more stylish that way.”



COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Common **ON** reading: **KAI** (カイ)

Common **kun** reading: **a** (あ)

kun-yomi suggestion: “ambassador”

Create your **on-yomi** keyword and enter it in the table at the back of the book. After that, write your sentence to remember the **on-yomi** and **kun-yomi** readings in the box below.

LESS COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Less common **ON** reading: **E** (エ)

Less common **kun** reading: none

COMMON WORDS AND COMPOUNDS		
会 う	<i>to meet</i>	a·u あ・う
会 見	meet + see = <i>interview</i>	KAI·KEN カイ・ケン
大 会	large + meet = <i>convention</i> ;	TAI·KAI タイ・カイ

	<i>tournament</i>	
開会	open + meet = <i>to open a meeting</i>	KAI·KAI カイ・カイ
入会金	enter + meet + gold (money) = <i>enrollment fee</i>	NYŪ·KAI·KIN ニュウ・カイ・キン

SAMPLE SENTENCE

米国大会 は 九月 に あります か。

BEI·KOKU·TAI·KAI wa KU·GATSU ni arimasu ka.

U.S. tournament September is

= *Is the U.S. tournament in September?*

WRITING PRACTICE

KANJI 139

聞 HEAR

丨	阂	阂	阂	阂	門	門	門	門
聞	聞	聞	聞	聞				
BUILDING THIS KANJI Gate 門(96) + Ear 耳(78) = 聞								

MEANING

Hear/Ask. Like “[早](#)” (Entry [29](#)), this is another kanji with two unrelated and distinct meanings.

REMEMBERING THIS KANJI

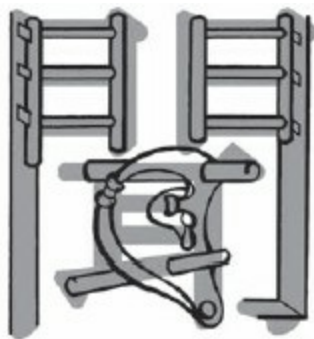
I pressed my **ear** against the **gate**.

“What do you **HEAR**?” she asked.

““**HEAR** ye’, ‘**HEAR** ye’,” I answered.

“How can I?” she said. “You’re in my way.”

“No,” I said. “I **HEAR** ‘**HEAR** ye...’ oh, forget it.”



COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Common **ON** reading: **BUN** (ブン)

Common **kun** reading: **ki** (き)

Only the **kun-yomi** appears in the first position.

kun-yomi suggestion: “keynote address”

Create your **on-yomi** keyword and enter it in the table at the back of the book. After that, write your sentence to remember the **on-yomi** and **kun-yomi** readings in the box below.

--

LESS COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Less common **ON** reading: **MON** (モン)

Less common **kun** reading: none

COMMON WORDS AND COMPOUNDS		
聞こえる (intr)	<i>to be heard</i>	ki ·koeru き・こえる
聞く (tr)	<i>to hear; to ask</i>	ki ·ku き・く
聞き出す	hear + exit <i>= to find out about</i>	ki ·ki da·su き・き だ・す
聞き入 れる	hear + enter <i>= to comply with</i>	ki ·ki i·reru き・き い・れる
新聞	new + hear <i>= newspaper</i>	SHIN · BUN シン・ブン
見聞	see + hear <i>= information</i>	KEN · BUN ケン・ブン

SAMPLE SENTENCE

夜中に物音を聞きました。

yo·naka ni mono·oto o ki·kimashita.

middle of the night sound heard

= (She) heard a sound in the middle of the night.

WRITING PRACTICE

[illegible]

COMPONENT 140

GOAL POSTS



KANJI 140

央 CENTER

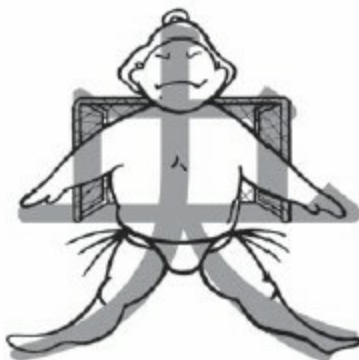
丨	冂	𠂔	央	央				
BUILDING THIS KANJI Goal Posts 冂 + Large (sumo wrestler) 大(17) = 央								

MEANING

Center. Other than the first example (and words derived from it), this kanji is rarely used.

REMEMBERING THIS KANJI

You put a **sumo wrestler** dead **CENTER** between the **goal posts**, and chances are your team will give up fewer goals. Your opponent, quite simply, will never hit the **CENTER** of the net.



COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Common **ON** reading: Ō (オウ)

Common **kun** reading: none

Create your **on-yomi** keyword and enter it in the table at the back of the book. After that, write your sentence to remember the **on-yomi** reading in the box below.

--

LESS COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Less common **ON** reading: none

Less common **kun** reading: none

COMMON WORDS AND COMPOUNDS		
中央	middle + center = <i>center</i>	CHŪ・Ō チュウ・オウ
中央口	middle + center + mouth = <i>central exit/entrance</i>	CHŪ・Ō・guchi チュウ・オウ・ぐち

SAMPLE SENTENCE

中央口 で 秋山さん を 見ました。

CHŪ・Ō・guchi de Aki-yama-san o mi-mashita.

central entrance Akiyama-san saw

= (He) saw Akiyama-san at the central entrance.

WRITING PRACTICE					

CHAPTER 7 REVIEW EXERCISES

A. Please match the following kanji to their meanings.

- | | |
|-------|------------|
| 1. 多 | a. Many |
| 2. 物 | b. Mother |
| 3. 音 | c. Heaven |
| 4. 天 | d. Read |
| 5. 花 | e. Write |
| 6. 書 | f. Thing |
| 7. 読 | g. Hear |
| 8. 私 | h. Flower |
| 9. 母 | i. Private |
| 10. 聞 | j. Sound |

B. Please match the following meanings to their kanji, and these to their **on** or **kun-yomi**.

- | | | |
|-----------|------|--------------|
| 1. New | a. 会 | 1. Ō (オウ) |
| 2. Hold | b. 前 | 2. wa (わ) |
| 3. Center | c. 新 | 3. KIN (キン) |
| 4. Road | d. 分 | 4. mo (も) |
| 5. Meet | e. 夜 | 5. SHIN (シン) |
| 6. Axe | f. 央 | 6. yoru (よる) |
| 7. Before | g. 名 | 7. a (あ) |
| 8. Part | h. 持 | 8. MEI (メイ) |

- | | | |
|-----------|------|--------------------|
| 9. Name | i. 道 | 9. mae (まえ) |
| 10. Night | j. 斤 | 10. DŌ (ドウ) |

C. Please choose the best answer(s) to the following questions.

1. Which of the following kanji have an **on-yomi** of **BUN** (ブン)?

- a. 読
- b. 聞
- c. 分
- d. 母
- e. 物

2. Which of the following readings apply to the kanji 多?

- a. **TA** (タ)
- b. **hana** (はな)
- c. **DŌ** (ドウ)
- d. **michi** (みち)
- e. **ō** (おお)

3. Which of the following readings apply to the kanji 花?

- a. **YA** (ヤ)
- b. **na** (な)
- c. **hana** (はな)
- d. **KA** (カ)
- e. **ON** (オン)

4. I planted a beautiful ____ in a corner of my garden.

- a. 斤
- b. 母

- c. 道
- d. 花
- e. 音

5. Which of the following readings apply to the kanji 物?

- a. **mono** (もの)
- b. **SHŌ** (ショウ)
- c. **SHITSU** (シツ)
- d. **na** (な)
- e. **BUTSU** (ブツ)

D. Please choose the best answer(s) to the following questions.

1. Which is the correct reading of 聞く?

- a. **yu·ku** (ゆ・く)
- b. **ki·ku** (き・く)
- c. **a·ku** (あ・く)
- d. **ka·ku** (か・く)

2. Which is the correct reading of 読む?

- a. **o·mu** (お・む)
- b. **ka·mu** (か・む)
- c. **u·mu** (う・む)
- d. **yo·mu** (よ・む)

3. Which of the following kanji has the most number of strokes?

- a. 前
- b. 物
- c. 書
- d. 夜

e. 持

4. Which is the correct reading of 書く?

- a. **ka·ku** (か・く)
- b. **ama·ku** (あま・く)
- c. **ki·ku** (き・く)
- d. **shi·ku** (し・く)

5. Which is the correct reading of 新しい?

- a. **atara·shii** (あた・らしい)
- b. **mawa·shii** (まわ・しい)
- c. **utsuku·shii** (うつく・しい)
- d. **ara·shii** (あら・しい)

E. Please match the following compounds and words to their meanings and pronunciations.

- | | | |
|--------|-----------------------|--------------------------------------|
| 1. 金持ち | a. National highway | 1. i·ke bana
(い・け ばな) |
| 2. 新聞 | b. An entry | 2. ka·i mono
(か・い もの) |
| 3. 生け花 | c. Oneself | 3. na·mae
(な・まえ) |
| 4. 国道 | d. Center | 4. kane mo·chi
(かね も・ち) |
| 5. 自分 | e. Flower arrangement | 5. Ji·BUN
(ジ・ブン) |
| 6. 書入れ | f. Name | 6. NYŪ·KAI·KIN
(ニユウ・カイ・キン) |
| 7. 名前 | g. Newspaper | 7. KOKU·DŌ |

- | | | |
|---------|-------------------|---------------------------------|
| | | (コク・ドウ) |
| 8. 中央 | h. Enrollment fee | 8. kaki i-re
(かき い・れ) |
| 9. 買い物 | i. Rich person | 9. SHIN·BUN
(シン・ブン) |
| 10. 入会金 | j. Shopping | 10. CHŪ·Ō
(チュウ・オウ) |

CHAPTER 8 (KANJI 141-160)

KANJI 141

近 NEAR

丶	厂	尸	斤	斤	近	近		
BUILDING THIS KANJI Axe 斤 (126) + Seal 辵 = 近								

MEANING

Near. The sense of “recent” is also incorporated.

REMEMBERING THIS KANJI

Brandishing an **axe**, the **seal** came **NEARER** and **NEARER** the waiter's station.

“Don't come **NEAR** me!” I screamed.

“You ever gonna slip me farmed salmon again?” he said threateningly.

I shouldn't have tried to be sneaky; any **seal** would have known that farmed salmon didn't taste **NEARLY** as good as wild.



COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Common **ON** reading: **KIN** (キン)

Common **kun** reading: **chika** (ちか)

kun-yomi suggestion: “**chica**”

Create your **on-yomi** keyword and enter it in the table at the back of the book. After that, write your sentence to remember the **on-yomi** and **kun-yomi** readings in the box below.

--

LESS COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Less common **ON** reading: none

Less common **kun** reading: none

COMMON WORDS AND COMPOUNDS		
近い	<i>near</i>	chika·i ちか・い
近づく	<i>to approach</i>	chika·zuku ちか・づく
近道	near + road = <i>shortcut</i>	chika·michi ちか・みち
近親	near + parent = <i>close relative</i>	KIN·SHIN キン・シン
最近	most + near = <i>recently</i>	SAI·KIN サイ・キン

SAMPLE SENTENCE

新しい家は川の近くにあります。

atara-shii ie wa kawa no chika-ku ni arimasu.

new house river near is

= *The new house is near a river.*

WRITING PRACTICE					

COMPONENT 142

HAMMER



KANJI 142

失 LOSE

ノ	𠂇	𠂇	失	失				
BUILDING THIS KANJI Hammer 𠂇 + Large (sumo wrestler) 大(17) = 失								

MEANING

Lose, in the sense of “mislay”. This character often conveys a hint of failure and error, so guard against becoming depressed on seeing it.

REMEMBERING THIS KANJI

LOSING one's belt is obviously the worst thing that can happen to a **sumo wrestler**. Should this occur, the **wrestler** is to strike himself repeatedly with a **hammer** to atone for **LOSING** face.



COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Common **ON** reading: **SHITSU** (シツ)

Common **kun** reading: **ushina** (うしな)

kun-yomi suggestion: “**ooh, she napped**”

Create your **on-yomi** keyword and enter it in the table at the back of the book. After that, write your sentence to remember the **on-yomi** and **kun-yomi** readings in the box below.

--

LESS COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Less common **ON** reading: none

Less common **kun** reading: none

COMMON WORDS AND COMPOUNDS		
失う	<i>to lose</i>	ushina·u うしな・う
見失う	see + lose <i>= to lose sight of</i>	mi ushina·u み うしな・う
失言	lose + say <i>= slip of the tongue</i>	SHITSU·GEN シツ・ゲン

SAMPLE SENTENCE

大会 で 失言 しました。

TAI·KAI de SHITSU·GEN shimashita.

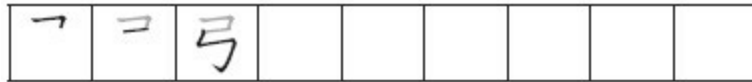
convention slip of the tongue did

= (I) made a slip of the tongue at the convention.

WRITING PRACTICE					

KANJI 143

弓 BOW

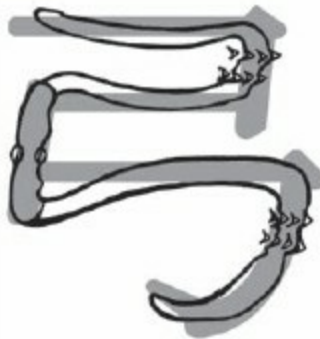


MEANING

Bow (the partner to an arrow).

REMEMBERING THIS KANJI

It's a shame about this **BOW** having been run over by a tractor.



COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Common **ON** reading: **KYŪ** (キユウ)

Common **kun** reading: **yumi** (ゆみ)

kun-yomi suggestion: “**you, me** and...”

Create your **on-yomi** keyword and enter it in the table at the back of the book. After that, write your sentence to remember the **on-yomi** and **kun-yomi** readings in the box below.

LESS COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Less common **ON** reading: none

Less common **kun** reading: none

COMMON WORDS AND COMPOUNDS		
弓	<i>bow</i>	yumi ゆみ
弓道	bow + road = <i>(Japanese) archery</i>	KYŪ·DŌ キュウ・ドウ

SAMPLE SENTENCE

前田さん は 古い 弓 と 美しい 日本刀 を 買いま
した。

Mae·da-san wa furu·i yumi to utsuku·shii NI·HON·TŌ o ka·imashita.

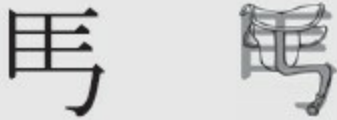
Maeda-san old bow beautiful Japanese sword bought

= *Maeda-san bought an old bow and a beautiful Japanese sword.*

WRITING PRACTICE					

COMPONENT 144

SADDLE



KANJI 144

馬 HORSE

丨	冂	冂	𠂇	𠂇	馬	馬	馬	馬
馬								
BUILDING THIS KANJI Saddle 馬 + Gas Stove 𠂇 = 馬								

MEANING

Horse.

REMEMBERING THIS KANJI

I was devastated when Trigger slipped his **saddle** and bolted off with another **HORSE**. I waited for him to return, naturally, but it was all in vain: he had left for greener pastures. In the end I hurled his **saddle** onto a **gas stove**; it was hateful to me now, and I didn't want anything to remind me of how fickle a **HORSE** could be.



COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Common **ON** reading: **BA** (バ)

Common **kun** reading: **uma** (うま)

kun-yomi suggestion: “**zoom** around”

Create your **on-yomi** keyword and enter it in the table at the back of the book. After that, write your sentence to remember the **on-yomi** and **kun-yomi** readings in the box below.

LESS COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Less common **ON** reading: none

Less common **kun** reading: **ma** (ま)

COMMON WORDS AND COMPOUNDS		
馬	<i>horse</i>	uma うま
子馬	child + horse = <i>colt; pony</i>	ko·uma こ・うま
牛馬	cow + horse = <i>cows and horses</i>	GYŪ·BA ギョウ・バ

BA・GU
ハ・グ

[illegible]

KANJI 145

週 WEEK

丿	𠄎	月	𠄎	𠄎	𠄎	周	周	週
調	週							
BUILDING THIS KANJI Around 周(120) + Seal 辵 = 週								

MEANING

Week.

REMEMBERING THIS KANJI

“It’s the same routine every **WEEK** here at the aquarium,” said the **seal**, shrugging. “I swim **around** and **around** ’cause there’s nothing else to do.”

I nodded. Digging up stories for my magazine “**Seal WEEKLY**”, it seemed, was going to be harder than I had thought.



COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Common **ON** reading: **SHŪ** (シュウ)

Common **kun** reading: none

Create your **on-yomi** keyword and enter it in the table at the back of the book. After that, write your sentence to remember the **on-yomi** reading in the box below.

--

LESS COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Less common **ON** reading: none

Less common **kun** reading: none

COMMON WORDS AND COMPOUNDS		
週間	week + interval = <i>week</i>	SHŪ·KAN シュウ・カン
一週間	one + week + interval = <i>one week</i>	IS·SHŪ·KAN イツ・シュウ・カン
二週間	two + week + interval = <i>two weeks</i>	NI·SHŪ·KAN ニ・シュウ・カン
週日	week + sun (day) = <i>weekday</i>	SHŪ·JITSU シュウ・ジツ
先週	precede + week = <i>last week</i>	SEN·SHŪ セン・シュウ
来週	come + week = <i>next week</i>	RAI·SHŪ ライ・シュウ

SAMPLE SENTENCE

月曜日 から 二週間 の 夏休み です

GETSU·YŌ·bi kara NI·SHŪ·KAN no natsu yasu·mi desu.

Monday from two weeks summer vacation

= *There's a two-week summer vacation from Monday.*

WRITING PRACTICE					

KANJI 146

引 | PULL

フ	コ	弓	引					
BUILDING THIS KANJI								
Bow 弓 (143) + Pole = 引								

MEANING

Pull. This character also conveys the idea of “attraction” (best seen in the fourth example) and the senses of receding and withdrawing. You will notice it frequently on signs; it indicates “pull” on doors, and “discount” when used with numbers.

REMEMBERING THIS KANJI

A **bow** obviously needs to be **PULLED** in order to work effectively as a weapon, and the same is true for a **pole**. How so? Well, a catapult is basically a **pole**, and if you think about it, the word “**PULL**” is actually found in “catapult”.



COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Common **ON** reading: **IN** (イン)

Common **kun** reading: **hi** (ひ)

As seen in the third example, this is another kanji that can act like 買 . The **kun-yomi** can also become voiced in the second position, as happens in the fifth compound. Note, incidentally, that the final word in the sample sentence (引き上げまし た) has not been encountered before. Try to guess its meaning by looking at the kanji from which it is formed.

kun-yomi suggestion: “**heave**”

Create your **on-yomi** keyword and enter it in the table at the back of the book. After that, write your sentence to remember the **on-yomi** and **kun-yomi** readings in the box below.

--

LESS COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Less common **ON** reading: none

Less common **kun** reading: none

COMMON WORDS AND COMPOUNDS		
引く	<i>to pull</i>	hi ·ku ひ・く
引き出 す	pull + exit = <i>to withdraw</i> (something)	hi ·ki da·su ひ・き だ・す
引出し	pull + exit = <i>a withdrawal; a draw</i>	hiki da·shi ひき だ・し
引力	pull + strength = <i>gravitation</i>	IN ·RYOKU イン・リョク
万引き	ten thousand + pull = <i>shoplifter</i>	MAN bi ·ki マン び・き

引き受 ける	pull + receive = <i>to undertake</i>	hi·ki u·keru ひ·き う·ける
引き上る	pull + upper = <i>to pull up</i>	hi·ki age·ru ひ·き あげ·る

SAMPLE SENTENCE

やっと 牛 を 川 から 引き上げました。

yatto ushi o kawa kara hi·ki a·gemashita.

finally cow river from pulled up

= *(We) finally pulled the cow from the river.*

WRITING PRACTICE					

KANJI 147

秒 SECOND

一	二	千	禾	禾	和	和	秒	秒
BUILDING THIS KANJI Crops 禾 + Few 少(45) = 秒								

MEANING

Second (of time or arc).

REMEMBERING THIS KANJI

“When there are **few crops**,” said the aid worker, “**SECONDS** count. Food needs to be rushed in, as the population will be growing weaker **SECOND** by **SECOND**.”



COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Common **ON** reading: **BYŌ** (ビョウ)

Common **kun** reading: none

Note that the sample sentence contains one of the less common **on-yomi** for “分” (Entry [124](#)) in the compound “十五分”.

Create your **on-yomi** keyword and enter it in the table at the back of the book. After that, write your sentence to remember the **on-yomi** reading in the box below.

--

LESS COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Less common **ON** reading: none

Less common **kun** reading: none

COMMON WORDS AND COMPOUNDS		
一秒	one + second = <i>one second</i>	ICHI·BYŌ イチ・ビョウ
五秒	five + second = <i>five seconds</i>	GO·BYŌ ゴ・ビョウ
秒読み	second + read = <i>countdown</i>	BYŌ yo·mi ビョウ よ・み

SAMPLE SENTENCE

十五分 二十秒 かかりました。

JŪ·GO·FUN NI·JŪ·BYŌ kakarimashita.

fifteen minutes twenty seconds took

= *It took fifteen minutes and twenty seconds.*

WRITING PRACTICE

[illegible]

KANJI 148

甲 SHELL

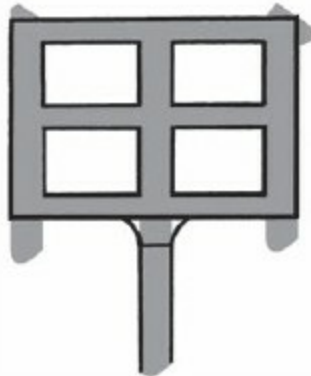


MEANING

Shell. This is another character that rarely appears on its own. Like similar kanji we have encountered, however, it proves valuable as a component.

REMEMBERING THIS KANJI

This is another kanji to which we will give an external meaning – in this case, a fly swatter. Why a fly swatter? Well, you'll need one if you ever go down to the seashore to get **SHELLS**; flies are all over them at low tide.



COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Common **ON** reading: **KŌ** (コウ)

Common **kun** reading: none

Create your **on-yomi** keyword and enter it in the table at the back of the book. After that, write your sentence to remember the **on-yomi** reading in the box below.

--

LESS COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Less common **ON** reading: **KAN** (カン)

Less common **kun** reading: none

COMMON WORDS AND COMPOUNDS		
手の甲	hand + shell = <i>back of the hand</i>	te·no· KŌ て・の・こう

SAMPLE SENTENCE

上田さんは手の甲がかゆい。

Ue·da·san wa te·no·KŌ ga kayui.

Ueda-san back of the hand itchy

= *The back of Ueda-san's hand is itchy.*

WRITING PRACTICE					

COMPONENT 149

SKI JUMP



KANJI 149

気 SPIRIT

ノ	一	三	气	気	気			
BUILDING THIS KANJI Hammer 一 + One (hamburger patty) 一(3) + Ski Jump ノ + Banana Peels 乂 = 気								

MEANING

This fascinating character encompasses a range of meanings, including the ideas of “spirit”, “air”, “feeling”, and “mood”. It is worth spending some time getting to know this kanji; it is found in many common words and expressions.

REMEMBERING THIS KANJI

I wanted to be a **ski-jumper**, but the national team crushed my **SPIRIT** when they left me off the squad. Oddly, it wasn't long after this that I grew to dislike everything about the sport, and began sabotaging all the facilities I could find. My method was simple: use a **hammer** to drive **hamburger patties** into the **ski jump** so that the athletes would be thrown off course, and leave **banana peels** on the side so that the spectators would slip. Isn't it strange what happens when the **SPIRIT** moves you?



COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Common **ON** reading: **KI** (キ)

Common **kun** reading: none

The sample sentence is an extremely common greeting/question in Japanese. Create your **on-yomi** keyword and enter it in the table at the back of the book. After that, write your sentence to remember the **on-yomi** reading in the box below.

--

LESS COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Less common **ON** reading: **KE** (ケ)

Less common **kun** reading: none

COMMON WORDS AND COMPOUNDS		
気	<i>spirit</i>	KI キ
元気	basis + spirit = <i>high spirits</i>	GEN·KI ゲン・キ
人気	person + spirit = <i>popularity</i>	NIN·KI ニン・キ
	electric + spirit	DEN·KI

電気	= <i>electricity</i>	デン・キ
天気	heaven + spirit = <i>the weather</i>	TEN・KI テン・キ
気持ち	spirit + hold = <i>feeling</i>	KI mo・chi キ も・ち

SAMPLE SENTENCE

元気 です か。

GEN・KI desu ka.

high spirits

= *How are you?*

WRITING PRACTICE

KANJI 150

時 TIME

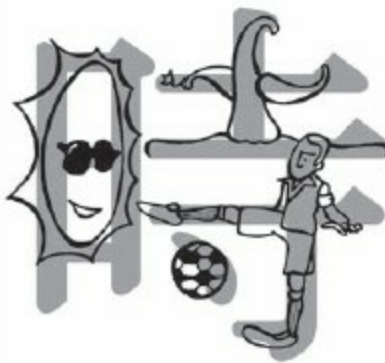
丨	冂	日	日	日一	日十	日土	日𠂔	時
時								
BUILDING THIS KANJI Sun 日(6) + Temple 寺(104) = 時								

MEANING

Time. This character will become familiar to you through its use in the hours of the day (the third and fourth compounds below are examples).

REMEMBERING THIS KANJI

The Incas developed a remarkable system of measuring **TIME**. The **sun temple** at Machu Picchu was of great importance in this respect, for it marked the exact **TIME** of the solstices.



COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Common **ON** reading: **JI** (ジ)

Common **kun** reading: **toki** (とき)

Note how the final half of the second compound becomes voiced; this is an occasional feature of repeated compounds.

kun-yomi suggestion: “**stoke eels**”

Create your **on-yomi** keyword and enter it in the table at the back of the book. After that, write your sentence to remember the **on-yomi** and **kun-yomi** readings in the box below.

--

LESS COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Less common **ON** reading: none

Less common **kun** reading: none

This irregular reading is very common.

IRREGULAR READING		
時計*	time + measure = <i>watch; clock</i>	to·KEI と・ケイ

COMMON WORDS AND COMPOUNDS		
時	<i>time</i>	toki とき
時々	time + time = <i>sometimes</i>	toki·doki とき・どき
四時	four + time = <i>four o'clock</i>	yo·JI よ・ジ
九時半	nine + time + half = <i>nine-thirty</i>	KU·JI·HAN ク・ジ・ハン
同時	same + time = <i>simultaneous</i>	DŌ·JI ドウ・ジ

SAMPLE SENTENCE

八時半 に 東口 の 近く で 会いましょう。

HACHI·JI·HAN ni higashi·guchi no chika·ku de a·imashō.

eight-thirty east entrance near let's meet

= *Let's meet near the east entrance at eight-thirty.*

WRITING PRACTICE

KANJI 151

話 SPEAK

丶	一	二	三	言	言	言	言	言
讠	讠	話	話					
BUILDING THIS KANJI Say 言 (80) + Tongue 舌 (110) = 話								

MEANING

Speak, along with the ideas of conversations and stories.

REMEMBERING THIS KANJI

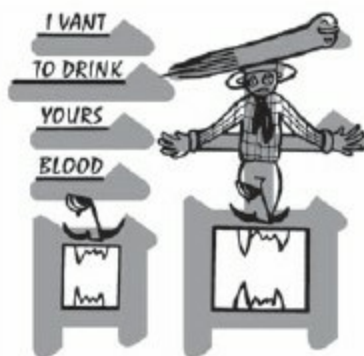
“**SPEAK** freely.”

“Though it is on the tip of my **tongue**, pharaoh, I dare not **say** it.”

“Then I order you: **SPEAK**!”

I shriveled inwardly, knowing I would have to **say** it to avoid a **tongue**-lashing, or worse. “All right,” I answered, shaking, “if you must know then, yes, it’s true: those pants *do* tend to make you look big in the hips.”

Pharaoh approached me with his headgear swaying menacingly. “I **say** to you this,” he warned. “You will lose that **tongue** should you **SPEAK** of this further.”



COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Common **ON** reading: **WA** (ワ)

Common **kun** readings: **hanashi** (はなし); **hana** (はな)

As in the final example below, the **kun-yomi** for this kanji is always voiced in the second position.

kun-yomi suggestions: “**Hannah** shielded”; “**Han** ambassador”

Create your **on-yomi** keyword and enter it in the table at the back of the book. After that, write your sentence to remember the **on-yomi** and **kun-yomi** readings in the box below.

--

LESS COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Less common **ON** reading: none

Less common **kun** reading: none

COMMON WORDS AND COMPOUNDS		
話	<i>story</i>	hanashi はなし
話す	<i>to speak</i>	hana·su はな・す
話し好き	speaking + like = <i>talkative</i>	hana·shi zu·ki はな・し ず・き
電話	electric + speak = <i>telephone</i>	DEN·WA デン・ワ
会話	meet + speak = <i>conversation</i>	KAI·WA カイ・ワ

立ち話

stand + speak
= *chatting while*
standing

ta·chi **banashi**
た·ち ばなし

SAMPLE SENTENCE

田中さん は フランス語 を 上手 に 話せます。

Tana·ka-san wa Furansu·GO o JO·zu ni hana·semasu.

Tanaka-san French well can speak

= *Tanaka-san can speak French well.*

WRITING PRACTICE

KANJI 152

英 ENGLISH

一	十	卅	卌	𠂔	𠂕	𠂖	英	
BUILDING THIS KANJI								
Wreath 卌 + Center 央(140) = 英								

MEANING

Although a secondary meaning relates to “brilliance”, this character will be far more familiar to you through its connection with all things English.

REMEMBERING THIS KANJI

To the **ENGLISH**, there can be only one object at the **center** of a **wreath**: the **ENGLISH** rose.



COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Common **ON** reading: **EI** (エイ)

Common **kun** reading: none

Create your **on-yomi** keyword and enter it in the table at the back of the book. After that, write your sentence to remember the **on-yomi** reading in the

box below.

--

LESS COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Less common **ON** reading: none

Less common **kun** reading: none

COMMON WORDS AND COMPOUNDS		
英語	English + words = <i>English (language)</i>	EI·GO エイ・ゴ
英国	English + country = <i>England</i>	EI·KOKU エイ・コク
英会話	English + meet + speak = <i>English conversation</i>	EI·KAI·WA エイ・カイ・ワ
日英	sun + English = <i>Japan and England</i>	NICHI·EI ニチ・エイ

SAMPLE SENTENCE

英会話 は 日本 で 人気が あります。

EI·KAI·WA wa NI·HON de NIN·KI ga arimasu.

English conversation Japan popular is

= *English conversation is popular in Japan.*

WRITING PRACTICE

[illegible]

KANJI 153

訓 INSTRUCTION

丶	㇀	㇁	㇂	㇃	㇄	㇅	㇆	㇇
訓								
BUILDING THIS KANJI Say 言 (80) + River 川 (70) = 訓								

MEANING

Instruction. This kanji tends to give a more serious or spiritual sense of teaching to the compounds in which it appears.

REMEMBERING THIS KANJI

INSTRUCTION for **rivers**: “All right everyone, listen carefully to what I *say*. What you want to do is head for the ocean; that means going downhill. Also, keep up a good pace or you’ll either turn into a swamp or one of those **rivers** without a current that everyone laughs at. Oh, and don’t be afraid to overflow your banks now and then; if anyone asks what’s going on, just *say* “that’s what **rivers** are supposed to do”. Follow these **INSTRUCTIONS** and you’ll be fine.”



COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Common **ON** reading: **KUN** (クン)

Common **kun** reading: none

The first compound below presents another reading with which you may have become familiar. Now create your **on-yomi** keyword and enter it in the table at the back of the book. After that, write your sentence to remember the **on-yomi** reading in the box below.

--

LESS COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Less common **ON** reading: none

Less common **kun** reading: none

COMMON WORDS AND COMPOUNDS		
訓読み	instruction + read = <i>the kun-yomi</i>	KUN yo·mi クン よ·み
訓話	instruction + speak = <i>moral discourse</i>	KUN·WA クン·ワ

SAMPLE SENTENCE

これ を 訓読み で 読んで 下さい。

kore o KUN yo·mi de yo·nde kuda·sai.

this kun-yomi read please

= *Please read this with kun-yomi.*

WRITING PRACTICE					

KANJI 154

押 PUSH

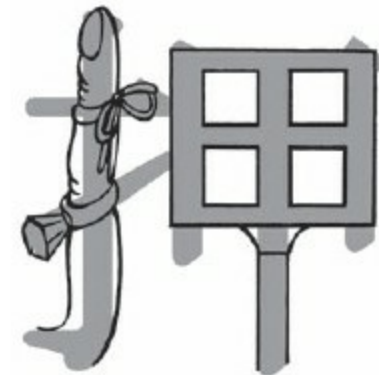
一	扌	扌	扌	扌	扌	扌	扌	扌
BUILDING THIS KANJI								
Finger 扌 + Shell (Fly swatter) 甲(148) = 押								

MEANING

“Push”, together with the ideas of “suppression” and “restraint”. This kanji also serves as the partner to “弓 |” (Entry 146) on door signs.

REMEMBERING THIS KANJI

OK, then, your **fingers** are now gripping the **fly swatter**. Excellent. The next step is simple: in order to kill the fly, **PUSH** the **fly swatter** away from you with a **PUSHING** motion.



COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Common **ON** reading: none

Common **kun** reading: お (お)

As indicated by the last two examples below, this is another kanji that often

shows up in the manner of 買.

kun-yomi suggestion: “orangutan”

Create your sentence to remember the **kun-yomi** reading in the box below.

LESS COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Less common **ON** reading: Ō (オウ)

Less common **kun** reading: none

COMMON WORDS AND COMPOUNDS		
押す	<i>to push</i>	o ·su お・す
押し出 す	push + exit = <i>to push out</i>	o ·shi da·su お・し だ・す
押し上 げる	push + upper = <i>to push up</i>	o ·shi a·geru お・し あ・げる
押し開 ける	push + open = <i>to push open</i>	o ·shi a·keru お・し あ・ける
押入れ	push + enter = <i>closet</i>	oshi i·re おし い・れ
押売	push + sell = <i>high-pressure sales</i>	oshi ·uri おし・うり

SAMPLE SENTENCE

押入れ の 中 に 物 が 少ない。

oshi i·re no naka ni mono ga suku·nai.

closet middle things few

= *There aren't many things in the closet.*

WRITING PRACTICE

[illegible]

COMPONENT 155

WHIRLING DERVISH

𠂔



KANJI 155

年 YEAR

ノ	𠂔	𠂔	𠂔	𠂔	年			
BUILDING THIS KANJI Hammer 𠂔 + Whirling Dervish 𠂔 = 年								

MEANING

Year.

REMEMBERING THIS KANJI

One of the events at the track and field championships is starting to become controversial: the **hammer** toss. Why? Simply because a **whirling dervish** wins it every **YEAR**. Athletes unable to whirl as quickly have complained that the **dervishes** have an unfair advantage. **YEAR** after **YEAR** of winning, it seems, can bring **YEAR** after **YEAR** of envy.



COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Common **ON** reading: **NEN** (ネン)

Common **kun** reading: **toshi** (とし)

kun-yomi suggestion: “lotto sheet”

Create your **on-yomi** keyword and enter it in the table at the back of the book. After that, write your sentence to remember the **on-yomi** and **kun-yomi** readings in the box below.

--

LESS COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Less common **ON** reading: none

Less common **kun** reading: none

COMMON WORDS AND COMPOUNDS		
年	<i>year</i>	toshi とし
年上	year + upper = <i>older</i>	toshi·ue とし・うえ
年下	year + lower = <i>younger</i>	toshi·shita とし・した

新年	new + year = <i>the New Year</i>	SHIN·NEN シン・ネン
中年	middle + year = <i>middle age</i>	CHŪ·NEN チュウ・ネン
一年生	one + year + life = <i>first-year student</i>	ICHI·NEN·SEI イチ・ネン・セイ

SAMPLE SENTENCE

青木さん は 三年生 です。

Ao·ki-san wa SAN·NEN·SEI desu.

Aoki-san third-year student

= *Aoki-san is a third-year student.*

WRITING PRACTICE					

KANJI 156

来 COME

一	𠂇	𠂇	𠂇	𠂇	𠂇	来	来		
BUILDING THIS KANJI									
One (hamburger patty) 一(3) + Rice 米(32) = 来									

MEANING

Come. As the final four compounds below make clear, the related meaning of “next” is also included.

REMEMBERING THIS KANJI

“COME on, everyone, dig in!”

I didn’t want to be rude, but a **hamburger patty** on a pile of uncooked **rice**? COME on! Not to mention the noise we all made as we crunched our way through the grains... Really, it was enough to make me wish I hadn’t COME to the **patty** and **rice** festival at all.



COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Common ON reading: RAI (ライ)

Common **kun** reading: **ku** (く)

This character is infamous for being one of only two irregular verbs in Japanese, but whereas “to do” (為 る) is rarely presented with its kanji (it is now universally written in **hiragana**), “to come” still is. What this means for us is that the character can be read variously as “**ku**” (く), “**ki**” (き) or “**ko**” (こ), depending on which tense of the verb is being used. The sample sentence offers an example of the polite past tense. Note, however, an important exception in the second compound below (an extremely common word); when following the kanji “出”, 来 is always read “**ki**”. Lucky for us there are only two odd verbs in Japanese!

kun-yomi suggestion: “cool”

Create your **on-yomi** keyword and enter it in the table at the back of the book. After that, write your sentence to remember the **on-yomi** and **kun-yomi** readings in the box below.

--

LESS COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Less common **ON** reading: none

Less common **kun** reading: **ki** (き)

This reading applies to only a pair of words: **ki·tasu** (来た す) “to be forthcoming”, and **ki·taru** (来たる) “coming”. This latter word is used as an adjective.

COMMON WORDS AND COMPOUNDS		
来る	<i>to come</i>	ku·ru く・る
出来る	<i>exit + come</i> <i>= to be able to</i>	<i>de ki·ru</i>

		で き.る
来週	come + week = <i>next week</i>	RAI·SHŪ ライ・シュウ
来月	come + moon = <i>next month</i>	RAI·GETSU ライ・ゲツ
来年	come + year = <i>next year</i>	RAI·NEN ライ・ネン
来春	come + spring = <i>next spring</i>	RAI·SHUN ライ・シュン

SAMPLE SENTENCE

先生 は 一週間 前 に 来ました。

SEN·SEI wa IS·SHŪ·KAN mae ni ki-mashita.

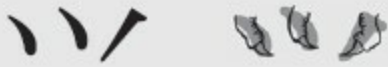
teacher one week before came

= *The teacher came a week ago.*

WRITING PRACTICE

COMPONENT 157

CLAW



KANJI 157

学 STUDY

丶	丿	㇏	㇏	㇏	学	学	学	
BUILDING THIS KANJI								
Claw 丿 + UFO ㇏ + Child 子(56) = 学								

MEANING

This character appears in words related to study and learning. When used as a suffix, it is often equivalent to the English “-ology”. The final compound offers such an example.

REMEMBERING THIS KANJI

“I don’t want to **STUDY**,” the **child** said. “You can’t make me.”

“Oh, really?” the teacher replied. “Don’t you know what happens to a **child** who doesn’t **STUDY**? A **UFO** flies down to get them.”

“Is that so?” said the **child**, now sauntering to the blackboard. “And when the **UFO** arrives, will my screams be like this? Like **claws** scraping down a blackboard?”

“No! Don’t do that!”

“Then what happens if I refuse to **STUDY**?”

“Nothing! You become very successful!”

So it was true, then, thought the other students: there really was no

need to **STUDY**.



COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Common **ON** reading: **GAKU** (ガク)

Common **kun** reading: **mana** (まな)

kun-yomi suggestion: “**man** answer”

Create your **on-yomi** keyword and enter it in the table at the back of the book. After that, write your sentence to remember the **on-yomi** and **kun-yomi** readings in the box below.

--

LESS COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Less common **ON** reading: none

Less common **kun** reading: none

COMMON WORDS AND COMPOUNDS		
学ぶ	<i>to study</i>	mana ·bu まな・ぶ
大学	large + study = <i>university</i>	DAI · GAKU ダイ・ガク

学生	study + life = <i>student</i>	GAKU·SEI ガク・セイ
休学	rest + study = <i>absence from school</i>	KYŪ·GAKU キュウ・ガク
語学	words + study = <i>linguistics</i>	GO·GAKU ゴ・ガク
生物学	life + thing + study = <i>biology</i>	SEI·BUTSU·GAKU セイ・ブツ・ガク

SAMPLE SENTENCE

この 家 には 大学生 が 多い。

kono ie ni wa DAI·GAKU·SEI ga ōi.

this house university students many

= *There are many university students in this house.*

WRITING PRACTICE					

KANJI 158

意 MIND

、	一	亅	㇀	立	产	音	音	音
音	意	意	意					
BUILDING THIS KANJI Sound 音(137) + Heart 心(25) = 意								

MEANING

Mind/Thought. This abstract character appears in many compounds conveying the ideas of “will”, “intention” and “opinion”, etc.

REMEMBERING THIS KANJI

Juliet :Take me in your arms, Romeo.

Romeo :My darling.

Juliet : The **sound** of your **heart**...it fills my **MIND**.

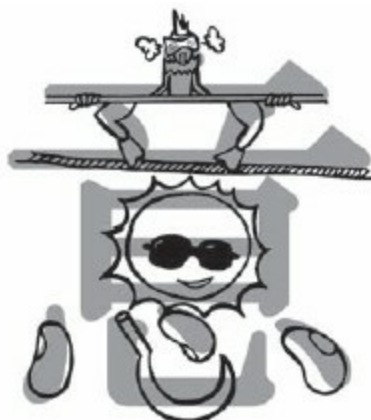
Romeo :Sorry, what's that?

Juliet : My **MIND**, it's filled with the **sound** of your **heart**.

Romeo :Oh...um...that's great.

Juliet :What do you mean “that's great”? Is that the best (stepping back) you can do? Doesn't this moment inspire anything more eloquent than that?

Romeo :Hey look, I've got a lot on my **MIND**, OK?
 Finals are coming up, I've got an important stag hunt this weekend, my cousin's wedding is just around the corner...oh, never **MIND**.



COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Common **ON** reading: **I** (イ)

Common **kun** reading: none

Create your **on-yomi** keyword and enter it in the table at the back of the book. After that, write your sentence to remember the **on-yomi** reading in the box below.

LESS COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Less common **ON** reading: none

Less common **kun** reading: none

COMMON WORDS AND COMPOUNDS		
意思	mind + think = <i>(one's) intent</i>	I •SHI イ・シ
意図	mind + diagram = <i>(one's) aim</i>	I •TO イ・ト
意外	mind + outside = <i>unforeseen</i>	I •GAI イ・ガイ
	mind + see	I •KEN

意見	= <i>opinion</i>	イ・ケン
意気	mind + spirit = <i>morale</i>	I・KI イ・キ
注意	pour + mind = <i>attention</i>	CHŪ・I チュウ・イ

SAMPLE SENTENCE

あなた の 意見 が 分かりません。

anata no I-KEN ga wa-karimasen.

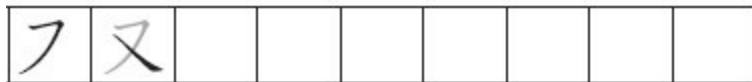
you opinion don't understand

= *I don't understand your opinion.*

WRITING PRACTICE

KANJI 159

又 **AGAIN**



MEANING

Again/Also. Though this character will rarely be encountered on its own (indeed, it is often written in **hiragana**), it does serve as a component in several important kanji. Like other characters we have encountered of this type, we will assign a meaning with a more immediate visual connection: an ironing board.

REMEMBERING THIS KANJI

“Do it **AGAIN**,” ordered the headmistress.

AGAIN and **AGAIN** I brought out the **ironing board**; **AGAIN** and **AGAIN** I failed to get rid of the wrinkles.



COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Common **ON** reading: none

Common **kun** reading: **mata** (また)

kun-yomi suggestion: “**mat activity**”

Note how the second kanji in the final example below is voiced. The pronunciation of “来なかつた” in the sample sentence, incidentally, is the informal past tense reading of “来”. There is no **on-yomi** reading for this character. Create your sentence to remember the **kun-yomi** reading in the box below.

LESS COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Less common **ON** reading: none

Less common **kun** reading: none

COMMON WORDS AND COMPOUNDS		
又	<i>again</i>	mata また
又々	again + again = <i>once again</i>	mata·mata また・また
又聞き	again + hear = <i>hearsay</i>	mata·giki また・ぎき

SAMPLE SENTENCE

北川さん は 又 来なかつたよ。

Kita·gawa-san wa mata ko·nakatta.

Kitagawa-san again didn't come
= *Kitagawa-san didn't come again!*

WRITING PRACTICE					

COMPONENT 160

ANTEATER



KANJI 160

赤 RED

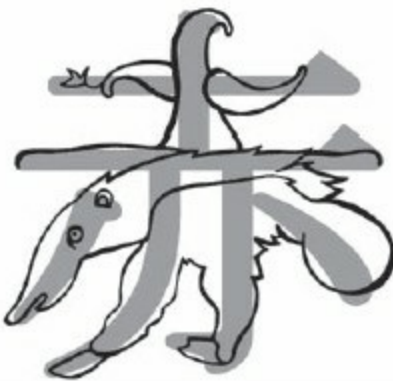
一	十	土	𠂔	𠂔	赤	赤		
BUILDING THIS KANJI Earth 土(87) + Anteater 小 = 赤								

MEANING

Red.

REMEMBERING THIS KANJI

It's pretty obvious what this **anteater** is doing: looking for **RED** ants in the **RED**, **RED** earth.



COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Common **ON** reading: **SEKI** (セキ)

Common **kun** reading: **aka** (あか)

kun-yomi suggestion: “stack apples”

Create your **on-yomi** keyword and enter it in the table at the back of the book. After that, write your sentence to remember the **on-yomi** and **kun-yomi** readings in the box below.

--

LESS COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Less common **ON** reading: **SHAKU** (シャク)

Less common **kun** reading: none

COMMON WORDS AND COMPOUNDS		
赤	<i>red (noun)</i>	aka あか
赤い	<i>red (adjective)</i>	aka·i あかい
赤ちゃん	<i>baby</i>	aka·chan あかちゃん
赤道	red + road = <i>equator</i>	SEKI·DŌ セキ・ドウ

SAMPLE SENTENCE

あの 赤い 花 は 美しい です ね。

ano aka·i hana wa utsuku·shii desu ne.

that red flower beautiful isn't it

= *That red flower is beautiful, isn't it?*

WRITING PRACTICE					

CHAPTER 8 REVIEW EXERCISES

A. Please match the following kanji to their meanings.

- | | |
|-------|----------------|
| 1. 又 | a. Horse |
| 2. 話 | b. Again |
| 3. 馬 | c. Shell |
| 4. 赤 | d. Speak |
| 5. 近 | e. Push |
| 6. 訓 | f. Pull |
| 7. 引 | g. Near |
| 8. 甲 | h. Study |
| 9. 押 | i. Red |
| 10. 学 | j. Instruction |

B. Please match the following meanings to their kanji, and these to their **on** or **kun-yomi**.

- | | | |
|-----------|------|------------------------|
| 1. Time | a. 失 | 1. toshi (とし) |
| 2. Year | b. 年 | 2. EI (エイ) |
| 3. Bow | c. 気 | 3. SHŪ (シュウ) |
| 4. Mind | d. 秒 | 4. I (イ) |
| 5. Spirit | e. 来 | 5. ushina (うしな) |
| 6. Come | f. 弓 | 6. BYŌ (ビョウ) |
| 7. Lose | g. 英 | 7. RAI (ライ) |
| 8. Week | h. 意 | 8. KI (キ) |

9. Second

i. 週

9. **yumi** (ゆみ)

10. English

j. 時

10. **toki** (とき)

C. Please choose the best answer(s) to the following questions.

1. Which of the following readings apply to the kanji 赤?

a. **KAN** (カン)

b. **aka** (あか)

c. **ON** (オン)

d. **o** (お)

e. **SEKI** (セキ)

2. I wasn't popular on my tug-of-war team because I always liked to ____.

a. 秒

b. 赤

c. 近

d. 押

e. 年

3. Which of the following readings apply to the kanji 馬?

a. **BA** (バ)

b. **NEN** (ネン)

c. **uma** (うま)

d. **KI** (キ)

e. **hana** (はな)

4. Which of the following readings apply to the kanji 近?

a. **TA** (タ)

b. **toki** (とき)

- c. **hi** (ひ)
- d. **chika** (ちか)
- e. **KIN** (キン)

5. Which of the following readings apply to the kanji 話?

- a. **hana** (はな)
- b. **YŪ** (ユウ)
- c. **hanashi** (はなし)
- d. **WA** (ワ)
- e. **mi** (み)

D. Please choose the best answer(s) to the following questions.

1. Which is the correct reading of 弓|く?

- a. **o•ku** (お•く)
- b. **ki•ku** (き•く)
- c. **yu•ku** (ゆ•く)
- d. **hi•ku** (ひ•く)

2. Which is the correct reading of 学ぶ?

- a. **a•bu** (あ•ぶ)
- b. **mana•bu** (まな•ぶ)
- c. **kara•bu** (から•ぶ)
- d. **yo•bu** (よ•ぶ)

3. Which of the following kanji has the most number of strokes?

- a. 週
- b. 馬
- c. 訓
- d. 時

e. 秒

4. Which is the correct reading of 押す?

a. o·su (お・す)

b. ama·su (あま・す)

c. ko·su (こ・す)

d. hi·su (ひ・す)

5. Which kanji would come next in the following series: 日 週
月?

a. 秒

b. 来

c. 年

d. 弓

e. 引

E. Please match the following compounds and words to their meanings and pronunciations.

1. 週間

a. English (language)

1. o·shi da·shi

(お・し だ・し)

2. 生物学

b. Week

2. MAN bi·ki

(マン び・き)

3. 英語

c. Conversation

3. SEI·BUTSU·GAKU

(セイ・ブツ・ガク)

4. 押し出す

d. Four o'clock

4. KAI·WA

(カイ・ワ)

5. 来年

e. Feeling

5. SHŪ·KAN

(シュウ・カン)

6. 四時

f. To push out

6. RAI·NEN

7. 赤道

g. Equator

(ライ・ネン)

7. **KI mo·chi**

(キ も・ち)

8. 万引き

h. Biology

8. **SEKI·DŌ**

(セキ・ドウ)

9. 会話

i. Shoplifter

9. **EI·GO**

(エイ・ゴ)

10. 気持ち

j. Next year

10. **yo·JI**

(よ・ジ)

CHAPTER 9 (KANJI 161-180)

KANJI 161

公 PUBLIC

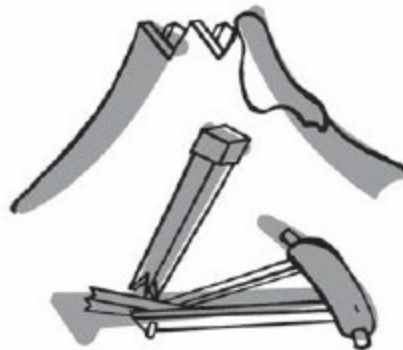
ノ	八	公	公					
BUILDING THIS KANJI Eight (volcano) 八(19) + Broken Crutch 𠂔 = 公								

MEANING

Public. In many instances, this character serves as the opposite to “私” (Entry [131](#)).

REMEMBERING THIS KANJI

The eruption of a **volcano** is a very **PUBLIC** event, but nobody suffers more than those on **crutches** who are blown off their feet. After all, if you're hobbling along with **broken crutches** as a result of this, you might as well carry a sign that announces “Stay Away: I'm Really Unlucky”. It's a very **PUBLIC** humiliation.



COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Common **ON** reading: **KŌ** (コウ)

Common **kun** reading: none

Create your **on-yomi** keyword and enter it in the table at the back of the book. After that, write your sentence to remember the **on-yomi** reading in the box below.

--

LESS COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Less common **ON** reading: **KU** (ク)

Less common **kun** reading: **ōyake** (おおやけ)

COMMON WORDS AND COMPOUNDS		
公有	public + have = <i>publicly owned</i>	KŌ·YŪ コウ・ユウ
公安	public + ease = <i>public peace</i>	KŌ·AN コウ・アン
公開	public + open = <i>open to the public</i>	KŌ·KAI コウ・カイ
公金	public + gold (money) = <i>public funds</i>	KŌ·KIN コウ・キン
公道	public + road = <i>public road</i>	KŌ·DŌ コウ・ドウ
公会	public + meet = <i>public meeting</i>	KŌ·KAI コウ・カイ

SAMPLE SENTENCE

ここ は 公道 です。

koko wa KŌ•DŌ desu.

this public road

= *This is a public road.*

WRITING PRACTICE					

KANJI 162

𠂔
𠂔𠂔 **GOODS**

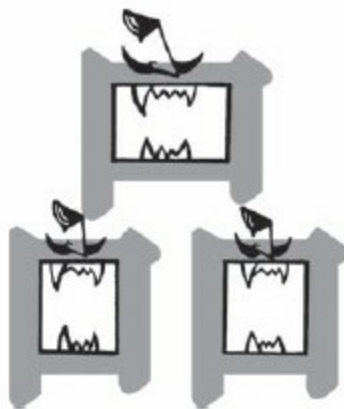
1	𠂔	𠂔	𠂔	𠂔	𠂔	𠂔	𠂔	𠂔
BUILDING THIS KANJI Mouth (vampire) 𠂔 (8) + Mouth (vampire) 𠂔 (8) + Mouth (vampire) 𠂔 (8) = 𠂔𠂔								

MEANING

This character expresses the idea of “goods” or “articles” in the majority of compounds in which it appears. It can occasionally have the more abstract notion of “refinement”; the fourth and fifth examples below illustrate this aspect of its meaning.

REMEMBERING THIS KANJI

You can imagine the **GOODS** a trio of **vampires** might have: capes, coffins, hair gel, teeth whiteners, blood pudding...all manner of **GOODS**, really.



COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Common **ON** reading: **HIN** (ヒン)

Common **kun** reading: **shina** (しな)

Note how the second character in example three below has become voiced.

kun-yomi suggestion: “**she nabbed**”

Create your **on-yomi** keyword and enter it in the table at the back of the book. After that, write your sentence to remember the **on-yomi** and **kun-yomi** readings in the box below.

--

LESS COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Less common **ON** reading: none

Less common **kun** reading: none

COMMON WORDS AND COMPOUNDS		
品	<i>goods</i>	shina しな
品物	goods + thing = <i>merchandise</i>	shina·mono しな・もの
品切れ	goods + cut = “ <i>out of stock</i> ”	shina gi·re しな ぎ・れ
上品	upper + goods = <i>elegant</i>	JŌ·HIN ジョウ・ヒン
下品	lower + goods = <i>vulgar</i>	GE·HIN ゲ・ヒン
中古品	middle + old + goods = <i>secondhand goods</i>	CHŪ·KO·HIN チュウ・コ・ヒン

SAMPLE SENTENCE

下品 な 人 です ね。

GE·HIN na hito desu ne.

vulgar person is

= *(He's) a vulgar person, isn't he?*

WRITING PRACTICE					

COMPONENT 163

MUGGER

巾



KANJI 163

市 CITY

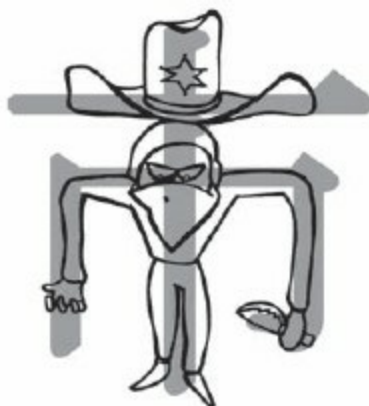
'	一	广	市	巾				
BUILDING THIS KANJI Police 一 + MUGGER 巾 = 市								

MEANING

City. A secondary meaning relates to “market”; in this sense the character can refer to anything from a simple fair to the idea of a general “business” market. This will be the first of four kanji in Chapter 9 connected with groups of people living in a defined area; moving from larger to smaller units will provide a sense of their relative sizes.

REMEMBERING THIS KANJI

If you’ve got **police** and **muggers**, chances are you’ve got yourself a **CITY**.



COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Common **ON** reading: **SHI** (シ)

Common **kun** reading: none

Create your **on-yomi** keyword and enter it in the table at the back of the book. After that, write your sentence to remember the **on-yomi** reading in the box below.

--

LESS COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Less common **ON** reading: none

Less common **kun** reading: **ichi** (いち)

This **kun-yomi** occurs in compounds when the kanji carries its secondary meaning of “market” or “fair”.

COMMON WORDS AND COMPOUNDS		
市	<i>city</i>	SHI シ
市内	city + inside = <i>within the city</i>	SHI·NAI シ・ナイ

KANJI 164

主 PRIMARY

丶	一	十	主	主				
BUILDING THIS KANJI								
Jelly Bean 丶 + King 王(23) = 主								

MEANING

This character conveys a sense of importance and authority; it is used in this vein with both concrete objects and abstract ideas. Note the difference between this kanji and that for “Jewel” in Entry 24 (玉).

REMEMBERING THIS KANJI

The PRIMARY reason a **king** puts a **jelly bean** on his head is to learn from the reaction it generates amongst his subjects. If no one dares tell him it's there, the **king** knows he is ruling PRIMARILY by fear. If it is pointed out to him with a smile, however, he knows he is viewed PRIMARILY with kindness.



COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Common ON reading: SHU (シュユ)

Common **kun** reading: **nushi** (ぬし)

kun-yomi suggestion: “**new shears**”

Create your **on-yomi** keyword and enter it in the table at the back of the book. After that, write your sentence to remember the **on-yomi** and **kun-yomi** readings in the box below.

--

LESS COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Less common **ON** reading: **SU** (ス)

Less common **kun** reading: **omo** (おも)

COMMON WORDS AND COMPOUNDS		
主力	primary + strength = <i>main force</i>	SHU·RYOKU シュ・リ ヨ ク
主人公	primary + person + public = <i>main character</i>	SHU·JIN·KŌ シュ・ジン・コウ
売主	sell + primary = <i>seller</i>	uri·nushi うり・ぬし
持主	hold + primary = <i>owner</i>	mochi·nushi もち・ぬし

SAMPLE SENTENCE

主人公 は 有名 な 美人 です。

SHU·JIN·KŌ wa YŪ·MEI na BI·JIN desu.

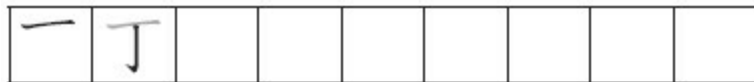
main character famous beautiful woman

= *The main character is a famously beautiful woman.*

WRITING PRACTICE					

KANJI 165

丁 BLOCK

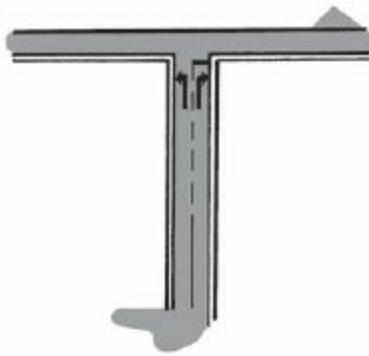


MEANING

The main sense is of a city “block”, although more obscure meanings can range from “pages” to “polite”. This is a quirky character that shows up often as a component in other kanji.

REMEMBERING THIS KANJI

Let’s face it: this looks like a capital “T”, so best think of it as an overhead view of a “T” junction marking the intersection of **BLOCKS**.



COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Common **ON** reading: **CHŌ** (チ ヨ ウ)

Common **kun** reading: none

Create your **on-yomi** keyword and enter it in the table at the back of the book. After that, write your sentence to remember the **on-yomi** reading in the box below.

LESS COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Less common **ON** reading: **TEI** (テイ)

Less common **kun** reading: none

COMMON WORDS AND COMPOUNDS		
丁目	block + eye = <i>city block area</i>	CHŌ ·me チョウ・め
二丁目	two + block + eye = <i>City Block 2</i>	NI · CHŌ ·me ニ・チョウ・め
四丁目	four + block + eye = <i>City Block 4</i>	yon · CHŌ · よん・チョウ・め

SAMPLE SENTENCE

私の新しい家は五丁目にあります。

watashi no atara·shii ie wa GO·CHŌ·me ni arimasu.

my new house City Block 5 is

= *My new house is in City Block 5.*

WRITING PRACTICE					

KANJI 166

友 FRIEND

一	ナ	方	友					
BUILDING THIS KANJI								
Superhero ナ + Again (ironing board) 又(159) = 友								

MEANING

Friend. The first two strokes are written in the same order as Entry 48 (“左”).

REMEMBERING THIS KANJI

“I just think you’re taking me for granted as a **FRIEND**,” said the **superhero**.

“What do you mean? All I asked you to do was pick up an **ironing board** for me. That’s something any **FRIEND** would do.”

“Yeah, but I mean...it’s embarrassing to fly with an **ironing board**. I look ridiculous.”

“You need to quit worrying about the opinions of others. And don’t make that face; I’m telling you this as a **FRIEND**.”



COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Common **ON** reading: **YŪ** (ユウ)

Common **kun** reading: **tomo** (とも)

kun-yomi suggestion: “lotto moment”

Create your **on-yomi** keyword and enter it in the table at the back of the book. After that, write your sentence to remember the **on-yomi** and **kun-yomi** readings in the box below.

--

LESS COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Less common **ON** reading: none

Less common **kun** reading: none

COMMON WORDS AND COMPOUNDS		
友	<i>friend</i>	tomo とも
友人	friend + person = <i>friend</i>	YŪ·JIN ユウ・ジン
友好	friend + like = <i>friendship</i>	YŪ·KŌ ユウ・コウ

SAMPLE SENTENCE

西山さんの友人は南米から来ました。

Nishi-yama-san no YŪ·JIN wa NAN·BEI kara ki-mashita.

Nishiyama-san friend South America from came

= *Nishiyama-san's friend came from South America*

WRITING PRACTICE					

KANJI 167



GROUP

丨	冂	冂	冂	冂	団			
BUILDING THIS KANJI								
Prison 口 + Tiny (soccer player) 寸(103) = 団								

MEANING

Group. Good luck making sense of the third example below!

REMEMBERING THIS KANJI

When they first arrive in **prison**, **tiny** soccer players will always huddle together in a **GROUP**. This behavior draws the attention of the regular cons, and a **GROUP** of them will soon approach the newcomers with welcoming smiles.



COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Common **ON** reading: **DAN** (ダン)

Common **kun** reading: none

Create your **on-yomi** keyword and enter it in the table at the back of the

book. After that, write your sentence to remember the **on-yomi** reading in the box below.

LESS COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Less common **ON** reading: **TON** (トン)

Less common **kun** reading: none

TON is found only in the well-known Japanese word for bedding: **FU·TON** (フ・トン), composed of the kanji 布団 (Spread + Group).

COMMON WORDS AND COMPOUNDS		
一団	one + group = <i>a group</i>	ICHI·DAN イチ・ダン
団体	group + body = <i>organization</i>	DAN·TAI ダン・タイ
団子	group + child = <i>dumpling</i>	DAN·go ダン・ご
入団	enter + group = <i>joining (a group)</i>	NYŪ·DAN ニュウ・ダン

SAMPLE SENTENCE

内田さん は 団子 が 好き です。

Uchi·da-san wa DAN·go ga su·ki desu.

Uchida-san dumplings likes

= *Uchida-san likes dumplings.*

WRITING PRACTICE					

COMPONENT 168

ROWER

母



KANJI 168

毎 EVERY

ノ	レ	レ	レ	毎	毎			
BUILDING THIS KANJI Hammer 𠂇 + Rower 母 = 毎								

MEANING

Every.

REMEMBERING THIS KANJI

“How long you been a **rower**?”

“A while. I was on the crew that took Caesar to North Africa. You?”

“Just started.”

“Well, all you have to remember is this: when the **hammer** comes down, you row. **EVERY** minute of **EVERY** hour of **EVERY** boring day. Not that I’m bitter, though. Like **EVERY** other guy here, all I want is a little variety in the beat.”



COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Common **ON** reading: **MAI** (マイ)

Common **kun** reading: none

Note the mix of readings in the last three examples below. Now create your **on-yomi** keyword and enter it in the table at the back of the book. After that, write your sentence to remember the **on-yomi** reading in the box below.

--

LESS COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Less common **ON** reading: none

Less common **kun** reading: **goto** (ごと)

COMMON WORDS AND COMPOUNDS		
毎日	every + sun (day) = <i>daily</i>	MAI ·NICH マイ・ニチ
毎週	every + week = <i>weekly</i>	MAI ·SHŪ マイ・シュウ
毎月	every + moon (month) = <i>monthly</i>	MAI ·tsuki マイ・つき
毎年	every + year	MAI ·toshi

	= yearly	マイ・とし
毎朝	every + morning = <i>every morning</i>	MAI·asa マイ・あさ

SAMPLE SENTENCE

私 は 毎朝 父 と 話 を します。

watashi wa MAI·asa chichi to hanashio shimasu.

I every morning my father speak

= *I speak with my father every morning.*

WRITING PRACTICE					

COMPONENT 169

WEIGHTLIFTER



KANJI 169

空 EMPTY

く	く	く	く	穴	空	空	空	
BUILDING THIS KANJI Weightlifter 穴 + Craft 工(47) = 空								

MEANING

Empty/Sky. As in English, “empty” can incorporate suggestions of uselessness and futility.

REMEMBERING THIS KANJI

Like a lot of students, I became a **weightlifter** at college and practiced my **craft** well. First up were **EMPTY** cans – I could curl a lot of those. Next came **EMPTY** bottles, followed by **EMPTY** kegs. It was only later that I realized how **EMPTY** the **craft** of **weightlifting** beer really was.



COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Common **ON** reading: **KŪ** (クウ)

Common **kun** readings: **sora** (そら); **kara** (から)

This kanji takes a bit of work, although **KŪ** is by far the most common reading in compounds. **sora**, as shown in the first example, means “sky”; it becomes voiced in the second position (as in the compound following). **kara** occasionally appears in first position with a meaning of “empty”, and is a reading you will no doubt be familiar with from the third example.

kun-yomi suggestions: “soar albatross”; “caramba”

Create your **on-yomi** keyword and enter it in the table at the back of the book. After that, write your sentence to remember the **on-yomi** and **kun-yomi** readings in the box below.

--

LESS COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Less common **ON** reading: none

Less common **kun** reading: **a** (あ)

This reading is used to make the verbs 空く and 空ける (**a·ku** and **a·keru**). Meaning “to open”, these can be thought of as interchangeable with

the more common 開く and 開ける (also **a•ku** and **a•keru**) from Entry 106. A few nouns, however, make use of this kanji exclusively: 空き缶* (**a•ki KAN**) “an empty can”, and 空き瓶* (**a•ki BIN**) “an empty bottle”, are two examples.

COMMON WORDS AND COMPOUNDS		
空	sky	sora そら
青空	blue + empty (sky) = <i>blue sky</i>	ao•zora あお•ぞら
空手	empty + hand = <i>karate</i>	kara•te から•て
空間	empty + interval = <i>space</i>	KŪ•KAN クウ•カン
空気	empty + spirit = <i>air</i>	KŪ•KI クウ•キ

SAMPLE SENTENCE

朝の空はきれいですよ。

asa no sora wa kirei desu yo.

morning sky lovely

= *The morning sky is lovely!*

WRITING PRACTICE

KANJI 170

町 TOWN

丨	冂	𠂔	𠂔	田	田	町		
BUILDING THIS KANJI								
Rice Field 田 (73) + Block 丁 (165) = 町								

MEANING

Town. One size smaller than a city is the town, making this the second of our four kanji related to people living in defined locations. This character can also refer on occasion to a “street” or an “alley”.

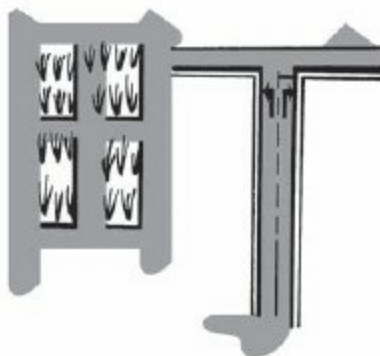
REMEMBERING THIS KANJI

“TOWN! TOWN!”

Strong and clear it resounded over the **rice fields**. From **block** to **block** it was heard in the neighborhoods.

“TOWN! TOWN!”

In all honesty, though, nobody could really see the point of the **TOWN** crier.



COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Common **ON** reading: **CHŌ** (チョウ)

Common **kun** reading: **machi** (まち)

Create your **on-yomi** keyword and enter it in the table at the back of the book. After that, write your sentence to remember the **on-yomi** and **kun-yomi** readings in the box below.

--

LESS COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Less common **ON** reading: none

Less common **kun** reading: none

COMMON WORDS AND COMPOUNDS		
町	<i>town</i>	machi まち
町内	town + inside = <i>in the town</i>	CHŌ·NAI チョウ・ナイ
町立	town + stand = <i>established by the town</i>	CHŌ·RITSU チョウ・リツ
町会	town + meet = <i>town assembly</i>	CHŌ·KAI チョウ・カイ

SAMPLE SENTENCE

この 町 の ラーメン は 有名 です。

kono machi no rāmen wa YŪ·MEI desu.

this town ramen famous

= *This town's ramen is famous.*

WRITING PRACTICE					

KANJI 171

犬 DOG

一	ナ	大	犬					
BUILDING THIS KANJI								
Large (sumo wrestler) 大(17) + Jelly Bean 丩 = 犬								

MEANING

Dog.

REMEMBERING THIS KANJI

Only a **jelly bean** dangled next to his head could make a **sumo wrestler** jump up like a **DOG**.



COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Common **ON** reading: **KEN** (ケン)

Common **kun** reading: **inu** (いぬ)

kun-yomi suggestion: “**enumerate**”

Create your **on-yomi** keyword and enter it in the table at the back of the

book. After that, write your sentence to remember the **on-yomi** and **kun-yomi** readings in the box below.

LESS COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Less common **ON** reading: none

Less common **kun** reading: none

COMMON WORDS AND COMPOUNDS		
犬	<i>dog</i>	inu いぬ
子犬	child + dog = <i>puppy</i>	ko·inu こ・いぬ
秋田犬	autumn + rice field + dog = <i>an Akita dog</i>	aki·ta·KEN あき・た・ケン
愛犬	love + dog = <i>pet dog</i>	AI·KEN アイ・ケン
愛犬家	love + dog + house = <i>dog lover</i>	AI·KEN·KA アイ・ケン・カ

SAMPLE SENTENCE

古川さん が 子犬 を 買いました。

Furu·kawa-san ga ko·inu o ka·imashita.

Furukawa-san puppy bought

= *Furukawa-san bought a puppy.*

WRITING PRACTICE

[illegible]

KANJI 172

死 DEATH

一	尸	夕	夕	死	死			
BUILDING THIS KANJI One (top of a bun) 一(3) + Evening 夕 (108) + Beggar 匕 = 死								

MEANING

Death.

REMEMBERING THIS KANJI

“So how did **DEATH** arrive for you?” she asked the **beggar**.

“It was weird,” he said. “I was begging on my usual corner when I noticed it starting to get dark. “Is it **evening** already?” I wondered. I looked up to check, but realized I was mistaken, that what I had thought was **evening** was actually the **top of a bun** settling over me. Now, you would have thought I’d be scared by this, but I wasn’t; the bun was really warm and smelled great, and for the first time in ages I didn’t feel hungry. I wasn’t afraid of **DEATH** at all.”



COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Common **ON** reading: **SHI** (シ)

Common **kun** reading: **shi** (し)

It is a welcome event when both types of reading for a kanji are identical like this; truly, death can sometimes be kind!

kun-yomi suggestion: “sheet”

Create your **on-yomi** keyword and enter it in the table at the back of the book. After that, write your sentence to remember the **on-yomi** and **kun-yomi** readings in the box below.

--

LESS COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Less common **ON** reading: none

Less common **kun** reading: none

COMMON WORDS AND COMPOUNDS		
死ぬ	<i>to die</i>	shi·nu し・ぬ
水死	water + death = <i>drowning</i>	SUI·SHI スイ・シ
死体	death + body = <i>dead body</i>	SHI·TAI シ・タイ
死火山	death + fire + mountain = <i>extinct volcano</i>	SHI·KA·ZAN シ・カ・ザン

SAMPLE SENTENCE

私の好きな馬は五年前に死にました。

watashi no su·ki na uma wa GO·NEN·mae ni shi·nimashita.

my like horse five years ago died

= *My horse that I liked died five years ago.*

WRITING PRACTICE					

COMPONENT 173

RAZOR

KANJI 173

行 GO

ノ	彳	彳	行	行	行			
BUILDING THIS KANJI Razor 彳 + One (hamburger patty) 一(3) + Block 丁(165) = 行								

MEANING

“Go” is the primary meaning of this character, along with related ideas of “carrying out” or “doing”. Far less common is the secondary sense of a “stroke” or “line” of text.

REMEMBERING THIS KANJI

When the **razor** moved into our neighborhood, no one in the **block** knew quite what to do. “How can it fit in with us?” I asked my wife. “**GO** and invite it to our **block** party,” she said. I didn’t want to do this, of course, but this turned out to be a great idea, for the **razor** was a big hit when it came time to prepare the **hamburger patties** that day. Shaving each one perfectly, it soon had everyone cheering “**GO! GO! GO!**” as it worked faster and faster. “You know something, honey?” I said to my wife. “Looks like the **razor’s** going to fit in well with our **block** after all. You were right telling me to **GO** and invite it here.”



COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Common **ON** reading: **KŌ** (コウ)

Common **kun** readings: **i** (ゝゝ); **yu** (ゆ)

This is another character for our rogues' gallery of troublesome kanji, and one that merits added attention from the outset. For the general sense of the verb "to go", **i·ku** (ゝゝ・く) is the choice; **yu·ku** (ゆ・く) is employed far less often and is of most use in a few specific compounds (such as in the second example), or as a suffix meaning "bound for" (as in the third). It can also act like 買, albeit strangely in that on rare occasions it will incorporate yuku as opposed to **yuki**. This is seen in the well-known compound **yuku·e·FU·MEI** (ゆく・え・フ・メイ) 行方不明: "Missing", built from the two words "whereabouts" (Go/Direction*) and "unclear" (Not/Bright).

kun-yomi suggestions: "Egypt"; "Unicorn"

Create your **on-yomi** keyword and enter it in the table at the back of the book. After that, write your sentence to remember the **on-yomi** and **kun-yomi** readings in the box below.

--

LESS COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Less common **ON** readings: **GYŌ** (ギョウ); **AN** (アン)

Less common **kun** reading: **okona** (おこな)

GYŌ is found primarily in compounds relating to this kanji's secondary meaning of "line" or "stroke". Note the irregular compound used at the beginning of the sample sentence (今日 日); we encountered this word back in Entry 6 (日).

COMMON WORDS AND COMPOUNDS		
行く	<i>to go</i>	i·ku い・く
行き先	go + precede = <i>destination</i>	yu·ki saki ゆ・き さき
東京行 き	east + capital + go = <i>bound for Tokyo</i>	TŌ·KYŌ yu·ki トウ・キョウ ゆ・き
夜行	night + go = <i>night travel</i>	YA·KŌ ヤ・コウ
歩行	walk + go = <i>walking</i>	HO·KŌ ホ・コウ
歩行者	walk + go + individual = <i>pedestrian</i>	HO·KŌ·SHA ホ・コウ・シャ

SAMPLE SENTENCE

今日 は 歩行者 が 多い。

kyō wa HO·KŌ·SHA ga ō-i.

today pedestrians many

= *There are many pedestrians today.*

KANJI 174

取 TAKE

一	乚	フ	フ	耳	耳	取	取	
BUILDING THIS KANJI								
Ear 耳(78) + Again (ironing board) 又(159) = 取								

MEANING

Take.

REMEMBERING THIS KANJI

The **ear** was nervous.

“Um...I was wondering...” he said to the **ironing board**, “if, uh...”

“Yes?”

“If I could, uh...you know, **TAKE** you...”

“**TAKE** me where?”

“**TAKE** you on a...stroll or something.”

The **ironing board** smiled, and for the first time noticed the **ear**'s wrinkles; she understood now that he needed her.

“That would be nice,” she said. “I’d love for you to **TAKE** me out.”



COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Common **ON** reading: none

Common **kun** reading: **to** (と)

As the second example below shows, this kanji acts like 買. It can also become voiced in the second position, as shown here in the final compound.

kun-yomi suggestion: “**toll**”

Create your sentence to remember the **kun-yomi** reading in the box below.

LESS COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Less common **ON** reading: **SHU** (シュ)

Less common **kun** reading: none

COMMON WORDS AND COMPOUNDS		
取る	<i>to take</i>	to·ru と・る
取引	take + pull = <i>transactions</i>	tori·hiki とり・ひき
取り上 げる	take + upper = <i>to pick up</i>	to·ri a·geru と・り あ・げる
取り入 れる	take + enter = <i>to take in</i>	to·ri i·reru と・り い・れる
取り出 す	take + exit = <i>to take out</i>	to·ri da·su と・り だ・す
気取る	spirit + take = <i>to put on airs</i>	KI do·ru キ ど・る

SAMPLE SENTENCE

赤とうがらし を 取り出して 下さい。

aka·tōgarashi o to·ri da·shite kuda·sai.

red peppers take out please

= *Please take out the red peppers.*

WRITING PRACTICE

KANJI 175

村 VILLAGE

一	十	才	木	木	村	村		
BUILDING THIS KANJI								
Tree 木(13) + Tiny (soccer player) 寸(103) = 村								

MEANING

Village. Here we have the third of our four “community” kanji. Keep in mind that this character implies something smaller than a city or town.

REMEMBERING THIS KANJI

As the population of our **VILLAGE** is **tiny**, the **tiny** soccer players have no one to play with. A suggestion that they use **trees** for opponents, however, was dismissed by everyone. This was hardly surprising given that it was proposed by the **VILLAGE** idiot.



COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Common **ON** reading: **SON** (ソン)

Common **kun** reading: **mura** (むら)

Note that the reading for “人” in the second example is voiced.

kun-yomi suggestion: “**moor** alongside”

Create your **on-yomi** keyword and enter it in the table at the back of the book. After that, write your sentence to remember the **on-yomi** and **kun-yomi** readings in the box below.

--

LESS COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Less common **ON** reading: none

Less common **kun** reading: none

COMMON WORDS AND COMPOUNDS		
村	<i>village</i>	mura むら
村人	village + person = <i>villager</i>	mura·bito むら・びと
山村	mountain + village = <i>mountain village</i>	SAN·SON サン・ソン

SAMPLE SENTENCE

村人 は 小道 に 立っています。

mura·bito wa ko·michi ni ta·tteimasu.

villager path is standing

= *A villager is standing in the path.*

WRITING PRACTICE					

KANJI 176

字 CHARACTER

'	'	𠂇	𠂇	𠂇	𠂇			
BUILDING THIS KANJI								
Pincers 𠂇 + Child 子(56) = 字								

MEANING

“Character”, in the sense of a Chinese character or letter of an alphabet.

REMEMBERING THIS KANJI

There are various ways of teaching Japanese **CHARACTERS** to a **child**, but a controversial method in days gone by involved the use of **pincers**. In it, a set of pincers would be suspended menacingly over a **child** practicing kanji. Should a mistake be made with any **CHARACTER**, the **pincers** would...well, best not describe what happened. Learning **CHARACTERS** today, quite simply, is a lot less stressful.



COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Common **ON** reading: **JI** (ジ)

Common **kun** reading: none

Note that the reading for “**ㇿ**” is voiced in the final example.

Create your **on-yomi** keyword and enter it in the table at the back of the book. After that, write your sentence to remember the **on-yomi** reading in the box below.

--

LESS COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Less common **ON** reading: none

Less common **kun** reading: **aza** (あざ)

COMMON WORDS AND COMPOUNDS		
十字	ten + character = <i>a cross</i>	JŪ·JI ジュウ・ジ
赤十字	red + ten + character = <i>the Red Cross</i>	SEKI·JŪ·JI セキ・ジュウ・ジ
字引	character + pull = <i>dictionary</i>	JI·biki ジ・びき

SAMPLE SENTENCE

多くの国では赤十字は大切です。

ō·ku no kuni de wa SEKI·JŪ·JI wa TAI·SETSU desu.

many country Red Cross important

= *The Red Cross is important in many countries.*

WRITING PRACTICE					

COMPONENT 177

SEESAW



KANJI 177

具 TOOL

丨	冂	冂	冂	目	目	具	具	
BUILDING THIS KANJI Eye (Cyclops) 目 (15) + Seesaw 𠂇 = 具								

MEANING

Tool/Equipment.

REMEMBERING THIS KANJI

I once got on a **seesaw** with a **Cyclops** and soon found myself stuck in the air. As he was in no hurry to let me down I had to endure watching him eat his lunch as I sat there dangling, which was unpleasant given his manners. Instead of cutlery, he used the only **TOOL** he had - his club - to do everything from spread butter to roll up pasta. That being said, though, it did work well as a cheese grater, so I suppose he had a point in describing it as a multi-purpose **TOOL**.



COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Common **ON** reading: **GU** (グ)

Common **kun** reading: none

Create your **on-yomi** keyword and enter it in the table at the back of the book. After that, write your sentence to remember the **on-yomi** reading in the box below.

LESS COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Less common **ON** reading: none

Less common **kun** reading: none

COMMON WORDS AND COMPOUNDS		
道具	road + tool = <i>tool</i>	DŌ•GU ドウ・グ
家具	house + tool = <i>furniture</i>	KA•GU カ・グ
具体	tool + body = <i>definite; concrete</i>	GU•TAI グ・タイ
馬具	horse + tool = <i>harness</i>	BA•GU バ・グ

SAMPLE SENTENCE

山下先生 は 新しい 家具 を 買いました。

Yama-shita-sensei wa atara-shii KA-GU o ka-imashita.

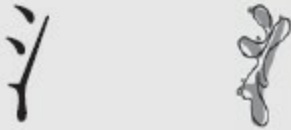
(teacher) Yamashita new furniture bought

= *Yamashita-sensei bought new furniture.*

WRITING PRACTICE

COMPONENT 178

SPLASH



This important component usually indicates a character having some connection to water. It will be encountered frequently, being present in more than one hundred of the general-use kanji.

KANJI 178

注 POUR

灬	灬	灬	灬	灬	灬	灬	注	
BUILDING THIS KANJI Splash 灬 + Primary 主 (164) = 注								

MEANING

Pour. In addition to the literal meaning, there is often an implied sense of “directing” something (a gaze or one’s attention, for instance) toward an object.

REMEMBERING THIS KANJI

This is how I was taught to **POUR**:

“When you **POUR**, your **primary** objective is not to let anything **splash** out. **POUR** carefully, but **POUR** confidently. **Splashes** are the **primary** indication that someone does not know how to **POUR** properly.”



COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Common **ON** reading: **CHŪ** (チュウ)

Common **kun** reading: **soso** (そそ)

kun-yomi suggestion: “so-so”

Create your **on-yomi** keyword and enter it in the table at the back of the book. After that, write your sentence to remember the **on-yomi** and **kun-yomi** readings in the box below.

LESS COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Less common **ON** reading: none

Less common **kun** reading: none

COMMON WORDS AND COMPOUNDS		
注ぐ	<i>to pour</i>	soso·gu そそぐ
注意	<i>pour + mind</i> = <i>attention</i>	CHŪ·I チュウ・イ
注水	<i>pour + water</i> = <i>watering</i>	CHŪ·SUI チュウ・スイ

注入	pour + enter = <i>infusion</i>	CHŪ·NYŪ チュウ・ニュウ
注目	pour + eye = <i>notice</i>	CHŪ·MOKU チュウ・モク

SAMPLE SENTENCE

犬 に 注意 して 下さい。

inu ni CHŪ·I shite kuda·sai.

dog attention do please

= *Watch out for the dog.*

WRITING PRACTICE					

KANJI 179

桜 CHERRY TREE

一	十	才	木	术	术	术	桜	桜
桜								
BUILDING THIS KANJI Tree 木(13) + Claw 爪 + Woman 女(16) = 桜								

MEANING

Cherry tree.

REMEMBERING THIS KANJI

CHERRY TREES are known to exhibit some odd behavior around **women**. When a **woman** approaches, for example, a **CHERRY TREE** will often extend its **claws** threaten-ingly, and only allow its fruit to be plucked once certain it will be done with a gentle touch. **CHERRY TREES**, as poets have known for centuries, are very delicate.



COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Common **ON** reading: none

Common **kun** reading: **sakura** (さくら)

As the second and third compounds illustrate, this reading is voiced when the kanji appears in the second position.

kun-yomi suggestion: “A **sack**? **Ooh**, wrap it!”

Create your sentence to remember the **kun-yomi** reading in the box below.

LESS COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Less common **ON** reading: **Ō** (オウ)

Less common **kun** reading: none

COMMON WORDS AND COMPOUNDS		
桜	<i>cherry tree</i>	sakura さくら
山桜	mountain + cherry tree = <i>wild cherry tree</i>	yama·zakura やま·ざくら
夜桜	night + cherry tree = <i>cherry trees at night</i>	yo·zakura よ·ざくら

SAMPLE SENTENCE

山桜 は 夜中 で も 美しかったです。

yama·zakura wa yo·naka de mo utsuku·shikatta desu.

wild cherry trees middle of the night even were beautiful

= *The wild cherry trees were beautiful even in the middle of the night.*

WRITING PRACTICE					

KANJI 180

里 HAMLET

丨	冂	𠂇	日	甲	里	里		
BUILDING THIS KANJI Shell (Fly swatter) 甲(148) + Two 二(4) = 里								

MEANING

Hamlet. Here we have the fourth and smallest of our populated units. This character can also signify the countryside in general; not surprisingly, given how small a settlement this kanji implies.

REMEMBERING THIS KANJI

When Hamlet came to our HAMLET, me 'n the other resident were pretty darn excited; the guy was the prince of Denmark, after all. Unfortunately, with only **two** of us in the HAMLET we only had **two fly swatters**, and what with all the flies buzzin' everywhere, I wasn't in any mood to lend him mine. Anyway, rumor has it he told folks back in Elsinore that he didn't much care for our HAMLET. Which strikes me as kind of ironic.



COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Common **ON** reading: none

Common **kun** reading: **sato** (さと)

The final compound below reminds us once again that this reading of “人” is always voiced when it appears in the second position

kun-yomi suggestion: “**sat** openly”

Create your sentence to remember the **kun-yomi** reading in the box below.

LESS COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Less common **ON** reading: **RI** (リ)

Less common **kun** readings: none

COMMON WORDS AND COMPOUNDS		
里	<i>hamlet</i>	sato さと
古里	old + hamlet = <i>the old hometown</i>	furu·sato ふる·さと
里人	hamlet + person = <i>country folk</i>	sato·bito さと·びと

SAMPLE SENTENCE

先週 は 古里 へ 行きました。

SEN·SHŪ wa furu·sato e i·kimashita.

last week old hometown went

= *Last week I went to my old hometown.*

WRITING PRACTICE

[illegible]

CHAPTER 9 REVIEW EXERCISES

A. Please match the following kanji to their meanings.

- | | |
|-------|------------|
| 1. 丁 | a. Hamlet |
| 2. 死 | b. Death |
| 3. 村 | c. Take |
| 4. 行 | d. Pour |
| 5. 主 | e. Goods |
| 6. 取 | f. Village |
| 7. 友 | g. Block |
| 8. 注 | h. Primary |
| 9. 品 | i. Friend |
| 10. 里 | j. Go |

B. Please match the following meanings to their kanji, and these to their **on** or **kun-yomi**.

- | | | |
|----------------|------|------------------------|
| 1. Dog | a. 犬 | 1. KŌ (コウ) |
| 2. Cherry tree | b. 具 | 2. MAI (マイ) |
| 3. Group | c. 公 | 3. kara (から) |
| 4. Every | d. 町 | 4. sakura (さくら) |
| 5. Public | e. 桜 | 5. GU (グ) |
| 6. Character | f. 市 | 6. SHI (シ) |
| 7. City | g. 毎 | 7. machi (まち) |
| 8. Tool | h. 字 | 8. inu (いぬ) |

9. Empty

i. 団

9. **DAN** (ダン)

10. Town

j. 空

10. **JI** (ジ)

C. Please choose the best answer(s) to the following questions.

1. Which of the following readings apply to the kanji 村?

- a. **mura** (むら)
- b. **CHŌ** (チョウ)
- c. **SON** (ソン)
- d. **machi** (まち)
- e. **SHI** (シ)

2. Which of the following readings apply to the kanji 友?

- a. **sato** (さと)
- b. **YŪ** (ユウ)
- c. **YŌ** (ヨウ)
- d. **minato** (みなと)
- e. **tomo** (とも)

3. Which of the following readings apply to the kanji 品?

- a. **SHŪ** (シュウ)
- b. **shina** (しな)
- c. **hana** (はな)
- d. **HIN** (ヒン)
- e. **IN** (イン)

4. When springtime rolls around I love to sit under a blooming ____.

- a. 犬
- b. 友

- c. 桜
- d. 具
- e. 注

5. Which of the following readings apply to the kanji 行?

- a. **i** (い)
- b. **KŌ** (コウ)
- c. **yu** (ゆ)
- d. **to** (と)
- e. **KA** (カ)

D. Please choose the best answer(s) to the following questions.

1. Which kanji would come next in the following series: 市....町....村....?

- a. 行
- b. 丁
- c. 空
- d. 里
- e. 具

2. Which is the correct reading of 死ぬ?

- a. **shi·nu** (し・ぬ)
- b. **a·nu** (あ・ぬ)
- c. **chi·nu** (ち・ぬ)
- d. **u·nu** (う・ぬ)

3. Which of the following kanji has the most number of strokes?

- a. 具
- b. 品

- c. 取
- d. 里
- e. 注

4. Which is the correct reading of 注ぐ?

- a. **ama·gu** (あま・ぐ)
- b. **shi·gu** (し・ぐ)
- c. **soso·gu** (そそ・ぐ)
- d. **o·gu** (お・ぐ)

5. Which is the correct reading of 取る?

- a. **mawa·ru** (まわ・る)
- b. **shi·ru** (し・る)
- c. **hi·ru** (ひ・る)
- d. **to·ru** (と・る)

E. Please match the following compounds and words to their meanings and pronunciations.

- | | | |
|-----------|------------------|---------------------------------|
| 1. 取り上 げる | a. Daily | 1. CHŌ·KAI
(チョウ・カイ) |
| 2. 注意 | b. Drowning | 2. KA·GU
(カ・グ) |
| 3. 家具 | c. Blue sky | 3. CHŪ·I
(チュウ・イ) |
| 4. 青空 | d. Attention | 4. shina·mono
(しな・もの) |
| 5. 毎日 | e. Organization | 5. MAI·NICHİ
(マイ・ニチ) |
| 6. 主人公 | f. Town assembly | 6. DAN·TAI |

		(ダン・タイ)
7. 品物	g. Furniture	7. SUI-SHI (スイ・シ)
8. 団体	h. Merchandise	8. to·ri a·geru (と・り あ・げる)
9. 町会	i. Main character	9. SHU-JIN-KŌ (シュ・ジン・コウ)
10. 水死	j. To pick up	10. ao·zora (あお・ぞら)

CHAPTER 10 (KANJI 181-200)

KANJI 181

林 GROVE

一	十	才	木	木	村	材	林	
BUILDING THIS KANJI								
Tree 木(13) + Tree 木(13) = 林								

MEANING

Grove.

REMEMBERING THIS KANJI

No story needed, as it's easy to see how this character could stand for a small group of trees!



COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Common ON reading: RIN (リン)

Common **kun** reading: **hayashi** (はやし)

As the common Japanese family name in the second example below shows, this reading becomes voiced when not in the first position.

kun-yomi suggestion: “**high ash** event”

Create your **on-yomi** keyword and enter it in the table at the back of the book. After that, write your sentence to remember the **on-yomi** and **kun-yomi** readings in the box below.

--

LESS COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Less common **ON** reading: none

Less common **kun** reading: none

COMMON WORDS AND COMPOUNDS		
林	<i>grove</i>	hayashi はやし
小林さん	small + grove	ko·bayashi·san こ·ばやし·さん
林道	grove + road = <i>woodland trail; road</i>	RIN·DŌ リン・ドウ
人工林	person + craft + grove = <i>planted forest</i>	JIN·KŌ·RIN ジン・コウ・リン
公有林	public + have + grove = <i>public woodland</i>	KŌ·YŪ·RIN コウ・ユウ・リン

SAMPLE SENTENCE

あの国には公有林が少ない。

= *That country has little public woodland.*

[illegible]

KANJI 182

森 FOREST

一	十	才	木	木	木	木	木	木
森	森	森						
BUILDING THIS KANJI Tree 木(13) + Grove 林(181) = 森								

MEANING

Forest.

REMEMBERING THIS KANJI

Another wonderfully simple character! You've probably guessed that this kanji implies a larger area of trees than that of the preceding entry.



COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Common **ON** reading: **SHIN** (シン)

Common **kun** reading: **mori** (もり)

kun-yomi suggestion: “Nemo realized”

Create your **on-yomi** keyword and enter it in the table at the back of the book. After that, write your sentence to remember the **on-yomi** and **kun-yomi** readings in the box below.

--

LESS COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Less common **ON** reading: none

Less common **kun** reading: none

COMMON WORDS AND COMPOUNDS		
森	<i>forest</i>	mori もり
森林	forest + grove = <i>forests</i>	SHIN·RIN シン・リン
森林学	forest + grove + study = <i>forestry</i>	SHIN·RIN·GAKU シン・リン・ガク

SAMPLE SENTENCE

森に入る時は注意して下さい。

mori ni hai·ru toki wa CHŪ·I shite kuda·sai.

forest enter time attention do please

= *Please be careful when going into the forest.*

WRITING PRACTICE					

KANJI 183

雲 CLOUD

一	厂	厶	巾	巾	巾	巾	雨	雲
雲	雲	雲						
BUILDING THIS KANJI Rain 雨(90) + SPY 云 = 雲								

MEANING

Cloud.

REMEMBERING THIS KANJI

Rain and **spies** are intimately connected with **CLOUDS**; **rain** for obvious reasons, and **spies** because of their need to operate in **CLOUDS** of secrecy. These are likely cumulonimbus as opposed to cirrus **CLOUDS**, though, as the latter are too wispy to provide much cover.



COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Common **ON** reading: **UN** (ウン)

Common **kun** reading: **kumo** (くも)

The **kun-yomi** often becomes voiced when not in first position, as here in the second and third compounds.

kun-yomi suggestion: “**coo Mozart**”

Create your **on-yomi** keyword and enter it in the table at the back of the book. After that, write your sentence to remember the **on-yomi** and **kun-yomi** readings in the box below.

LESS COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Less common **ON** reading: none

Less common **kun** reading: none

COMMON WORDS AND COMPOUNDS		
雲	<i>cloud</i>	kumo くも
雨雲	rain + cloud = <i>rain cloud</i>	ama·gumo あま・ぐも
雪雲	snow + cloud = <i>snow cloud</i>	yuki·gumo ゆき・ぐも
星雲	star + cloud = <i>nebula</i>	SEI·UN セイ・ウン
雲海	cloud + sea = <i>sea of clouds</i>	UN·KAI ウン・カイ

SAMPLE SENTENCE

雨雲 が 村 の 上 に 掛かっています。

ama·gumo ga mura no ue ni ka·katte imasu.

rain clouds village upper are hanging

<p>= <i>Rain clouds are hanging over the village.</i></p>

WRITING PRACTICE

[illegible]

KANJI 184

黒 BLACK

丨	冂	冂	日	甲	里	里	里	黒
黒	黒							
BUILDING THIS KANJI Hamlet 里(180) + Gas Stove 𠂔 = 黒								

MEANING

Black.

REMEMBERING THIS KANJI

The introduction of **gas stoves** was problematic for our **hamlet**; nobody was sure how to cook with them, and a lot of food was burnt beyond recognition. The inevitable result was that **BLACK** smoke drifted everywhere, covering the landscape and **hamlet** with soot. Residents began to grumble. “We should go back to the old ways,” some said, “because these **gas stoves** are nothing but trouble. It was a **BLACK** day when they arrived here”.



COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Common **ON** reading: **KOKU** (コク)

Common **kun** reading: **kuro** (くろ)

With the exception of the third example, the **kun-yomi** is always voiced in the second position (as it appears in the fourth compound).

kun-yomi suggestion: “**coo** rosily”

Create your **on-yomi** keyword and enter it in the table at the back of the book. After that, write your sentence to remember the **on-yomi** and **kun-yomi** readings in the box below.

--

LESS COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Less common **ON** reading: none

Less common **kun** reading: none

COMMON WORDS AND COMPOUNDS		
黒	<i>black (noun)</i>	kuro くろ
黒い	<i>black (adjective)</i>	kuro·i くろ·い
白黒	white + black = <i>black-and-white</i>	shiro·kuro しろ·くろ
赤黒い	red + black = <i>dark red</i>	aka guro·i あか ぐろ·い
黒人	black + person = <i>a black person</i>	KOKU·JIN コク·ジン

SAMPLE SENTENCE

この 黒い 馬 は 美しい です ね。

kono kuro-i uma wa utsuku-shii desu ne.

this black horse beautiful isn't it

= *This black horse is beautiful, isn't it?*

WRITING PRACTICE					

KANJI 185

交 MIX

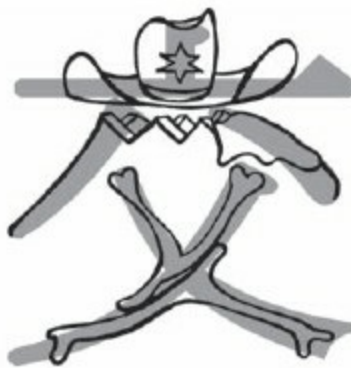
'	一	六	六	交	交			
BUILDING THIS KANJI								
Police 一 + Father 父(79) = 交								

MEANING

This character conveys a general sense of things mixing in both physical and figurative ways (“associating” with people or “exchanging” words are examples of the latter).

REMEMBERING THIS KANJI

My **father** was a **police** officer who enjoyed throwing **MIXERS**. Such occasions would always draw an interesting **MIX** of ranks: corporals, constables, inspectors...they all attended. My **father**, however, would not let anyone else **MIX** the drinks. “The last thing anyone wants,” he said to me, “is a **MIX**-up with all these guns around.”



COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Common ON reading: KŌ (コウ)

Common **kun** reading: **ma** (ま)

kun-yomi suggestion: “**match**”

Create your **on-yomi** keyword and enter it in the table at the back of the book. After that, write your sentence to remember the **on-yomi** and **kun-yomi** readings in the box below.

--

LESS COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Less common **ON** reading: none

Less common **kun** readings: **maji** (まじ); **ka** (か)

COMMON WORDS AND COMPOUNDS		
交ざる (intr)	<i>to mingle</i>	ma·zaru ま・ざる
交ぜる (tr)	<i>to mix (something)</i>	ma·zeru ま・ぜる
外交	outside + mix = <i>foreign policy</i>	GAI·KŌ ガイ・コウ

SAMPLE SENTENCE

あの 国 の 外交 が 分かりません。

ano kuni no GAI·KŌ ga wa·karimasen.

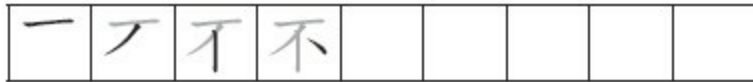
that country foreign policy don't understand

= *(I) don't understand that country's foreign policy.*

WRITING PRACTICE					

KANJI 186

不 NOT

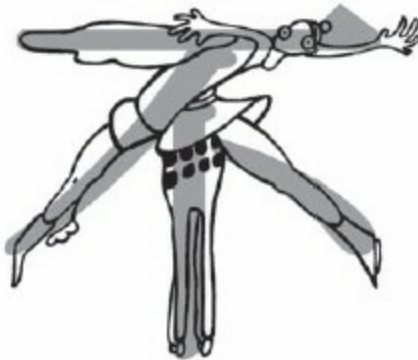


MEANING

Expressing the idea of “not” or “un-“, this is an important negating prefix in Japanese.

REMEMBERING THIS KANJI

What is this, you ask? Well, it's NOT a superhero, it's NOT a giraffe, and it's NOT a figure skater. It's just... NOT like anything, really.



COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Common **ON** reading: FU (フ)

Common **kun** reading: none

Note how this kanji can function as a prefix with complete words, as it does below in the final example [the base compound for this word (親切) was presented in Entry [118](#)].

Create your **on-yomi** keyword and enter it in the table at the back of the book. After that, write your sentence to remember the **on-yomi** reading in the box below.

--

LESS COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Less common **ON** reading: **BU** (ブ)

Less common **kun** readings: none

COMMON WORDS AND COMPOUNDS		
不意	not + mind = <i>unexpectedly</i>	FU·I フ・イ
不安	not + ease = <i>uneasy</i>	FU·AN フ・アン
不明	not + bright = <i>unclear</i>	FU·MEI フ・メイ
不死	not + death = <i>immortal</i>	FU·SHI フ・シ
不親切	not + parent + cut = <i>unkind</i>	FU·SHIN·SETSU フ・シン・セツ

SAMPLE SENTENCE

小林さん の 意図 は 不明 です。

Ko·bayashi·san no I·TO wa FU·MEI desu.

Kobayashi-san aim unclear

= *Kobayashi-san's aim is unclear.*

WRITING PRACTICE					

COMPONENT 187

FRUSTRATION

彡



As will be seen in the following entry, this component is written with three strokes.

KANJI 187

後 AFTER

丶	㇏	亅	𠂇	𠂇	𠂇	後	後	後
BUILDING THIS KANJI								
Razor 彡 + Frustration 彡 + Running Chicken 久 = 後								

MEANING

After/Later/Behind. These meanings apply to the ideas of both physical location and time.

REMEMBERING THIS KANJI

A butcher's lament:

“Am I **frustrated**? Yeah, I’m **frustrated**. I just spent an hour chasing **AFTER** a **running chicken** with a **razor**. Why? ’Cause a customer wanted shaved chicken, that’s why! And then **AFTER** I got it for them, they complained about the taste of the **AFTER** shave!”



COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Common **ON** readings: **KŌ** (コウ); **GO** (ゴ)

Common **kun** readings: **ato** (あと); **ushi** (うし)

This can be a tough character to master, but is not as fearsome as might be expected given its many readings. Look for **KŌ** in the first position; **ato** and **ushi-ro** (this reading is always accompanied by **ro**) appear far less frequently here, and **GO** pops up in only a few words. In second position, moreover, the reading will invariably be **GO**.

It is worth having another look at the compounds for “**前**” in Chapter 7 (Entry 133), to see how the fourth, fifth and sixth examples given there “pair up” with the three below.

kun-yomi suggestions: “**at** Oklahoma”; “**Ooh, she...**”

Create your **on-yomi** keyword and enter it in the table at the back of the book. After that, write your sentence to remember the **on-yomi** and **kun-yomi** readings in the box below.

--

LESS COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Less common **ON** reading: none

Less common **kun** readings: **nochi** (のち); **oku** (おく)

COMMON WORDS AND COMPOUNDS		
後	<i>after</i>	ato あと
後ろ	<i>behind</i>	ushi-ro うし.ろ
後年	after + year = <i>in later years</i>	KŌ-NEN コウ.ネン
後半	after + half = <i>second half</i>	KŌ-HAN コウ.ハン
後者	after + individual = <i>the latter</i>	KŌ-SHA コウ.シャ
午後	noon + after = <i>P.M.; afternoon</i>	GO-GO ゴ.ゴ

SAMPLE SENTENCE

後 で 友人 と 東京 へ 行きます。

ato de YŪ-JIN to TŌ-KYŌ e i-kimasu.

after friend with Tokyo go

= *Afterward, I'll go to Tokyo with a friend.*

WRITING PRACTICE

KANJI 188

最 MOST

丨	冂	冂	日	旦	𠄎	𠄎	𠄎	𠄎
𠄎	𠄎	最						
BUILDING THIS KANJI Sun 日 (6) + Take 取 (174) = 最								

MEANING

Most. Note how the first stroke of “ear” has been lengthened.

REMEMBERING THIS KANJI

So the ear was finally able to **take** the ironing board on a date, and luckily for him it turned out to be the **MOST** wonderful, **MOST** picturesque day. Not to mention the **MOST** romantic, too, for when the **sun** grew overly hot, the ear stretched himself out so that the ironing board would be shaded. He really was a **MOST** chivalrous ear when it came to **taking** care of a date.



COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Common **ON** reading: **SAI** (サイ)

Common **kun** reading: none

Create your **on-yomi** keyword and enter it in the table at the back of the book. After that, write your sentence to remember the **on-yomi** reading in the box below.

--

LESS COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Less common **ON** reading: none

Less common **kun** readings: **motto** (もつと); **mo** (も)

COMMON WORDS AND COMPOUNDS		
最小	most + small = <i>smallest</i>	SAI·SHŌ サイ・ショウ
最少	most + few = <i>fewest</i>	SAI·SHŌ サイ・ショウ
最高	most + tall = <i>highest; the best</i>	SAI·KŌ サイ・コウ
最古	most + old = <i>oldest</i>	SAI·KO サイ・コ
最新	most + new = <i>newest</i>	SAI·SHIN サイ・シン
最後	most + after = <i>the last</i>	SAI·GO サイ・ゴ

SAMPLE SENTENCE

この 天気 は 最高 です よ。
kono TEN·KI wa SAI·KŌ desu yo.

this weather the best is = <i>This weather is fantastic!</i>

WRITING PRACTICE

[illegible]

KANJI 189

太 **FAT**

一	ナ	大	太					
BUILDING THIS KANJI								
Large (sumo wrestler) 大(17) + Jelly Bean 丷 = 太								

MEANING

Fat/Thick. Note the difference between this character and “犬” (Entry 171).

REMEMBERING THIS KANJI

This is what happens when a **sumo wrestler** gets too **FAT**: try as he might, he can't even bend down to pick up a **jelly bean** lying between his feet.



COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Common **ON** reading: **TAI** (タイ)

Common **kun** reading: **futo** (ふと)

kun-yomi suggestion: “**who told**”

Create your **on-yomi** keyword and enter it in the table at the back of the book. After that, write your sentence to remember the **on-yomi** and **kun-yomi** readings in the box below.

--

LESS COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Less common **ON** reading: **TA** (タ)

Less common **kun** reading: none

COMMON WORDS AND COMPOUNDS		
太い	<i>fat; thick</i>	futo·i ふと・い
太る	<i>to grow fat</i>	futo·ru ふと・る
太子	fat + child = <i>crown prince</i>	TAI·SHI タイ・シ

SAMPLE SENTENCE

私は冬休みにとても太った。

watashi wa fuyuyasu-mi ni totemo futo-tta.

I winter vacation really grew fat

= *I really put on weight during winter vacation.*

WRITING PRACTICE					

KANJI 190

車 **CAR**



MEANING

Car. As the compounds below indicate, this character can also refer to a wide range of other vehicles. No story required.



COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Common **ON** reading: **SHA** (シヤ)

Common **kun** reading: **kuruma** (くるま)

kun-yomi suggestion: “**coo** rheumatism”

Create your **on-yomi** keyword and enter it in the table at the back of the book. After that, write your sentence to remember the **on-yomi** and **kun-yomi** readings in the box below.

--

LESS COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Less common **ON** reading: none

Less common **kun** reading: none

COMMON WORDS AND COMPOUNDS		
車	<i>car; vehicle</i>	kuruma くるま
電車	electric + car = <i>(electric) train</i>	DEN·SHA デン・シャ
空車	empty + car = <i>(taxi) "for hire"</i>	KŪ·SHA クウ・シャ
車内	car + inside = <i>inside the car</i>	SHA·NAI シャ・ナイ
中古車	middle + old + car = <i>used car</i>	CHŪ·KO·SHA チュウ・コ・シャ

SAMPLE SENTENCE

中村さん は 中古車 を 買いました。

Naka·mura-san wa CHŪ·KO·SHA o ka·imashita.

Nakamura-san used car bought

= *Nakamura-san bought a used car.*

WRITING PRACTICE					

COMPONENT 191

STROLLER



KANJI 191



RECEIVE

一	フ	𠂔	𠂔	𠂔	𠂔	𠂔	𠂔	𠂔	
BUILDING THIS KANJI Stroller 𠂔 + UFO 𠂔 + Again (ironing board) 又(159) = 受									

MEANING

Receive/Accept. This interesting character encompasses a wide range of meanings having to do with the idea of reception; “taking” an exam, “undergoing” an operation, or “suffering” injuries are several examples.

REMEMBERING THIS KANJI

The **ironing board** longed to have a miniature **ironing board** in the worst way, but still hadn't **RECEIVED** the adoption papers. As the wait dragged on, she began to have visions of a **UFO** descending with a **stroller**: “We have your **ironing board**,” a voice would announce, “will you **RECEIVE** it?”. “I will **RECEIVE** it, yes” she always answered, “I will”.



COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Common **ON** reading: **JU** (ジュ)

Common **kun** reading: **u** (ウ)

The third and fourth examples below show this to be another kanji sharing the pronunciation characteristics of 買.

kun-yomi suggestion: “oolong tea”

Create your **on-yomi** keyword and enter it in the table at the back of the book. After that, write your sentence to remember the **on-yomi** and **kun-yomi** readings in the box below.

LESS COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Less common **ON** reading: none

Less common **kun** reading: none

COMMON WORDS AND COMPOUNDS		
受ける	<i>to receive; to accept</i>	u•keru う・ける
受け取 る	receive + take	u•ke to•ru

	= <i>to receive</i>	う・け と・る
受取	receive + take = <i>receipt</i>	uke •tori うけ・とり
受取人	receive + take + person = <i>recipient</i>	uke •tori•NIN うけ・とり・ニン
引き受 ける	pull + receive = <i>to undertake</i>	hi•ki u •keru ひ・き う・ける
受注	receive + pour = <i>receipt of an order</i>	JU •CHŪ ジュ・チュウ

SAMPLE SENTENCE

田中さん は 新しい 本 を 受け取りました。

Ta•naka-san wa atara•shii HON o u•ke to•rimashita.

Tanaka-san new book received

= *Tanaka-san received a new book.*

WRITING PRACTICE

KANJI 192

𦵏 EVIL

ノ	𦵏	𦵏	𦵏					
BUILDING THIS KANJI Banana Peels 𦵏 + Garbage Can 𦵏 = 𦵏								

MEANING

Take care: this unpleasant character relates exclusively to evil and misfortune.

REMEMBERING THIS KANJI

EVIL comes in all forms. Environmentalists, for example, regard **banana peels** in a **garbage can** as **EVIL**, as this is a telltale sign of someone being uninterested in composting.



COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Common **ON** reading: **KYŌ** (キョウ)

Common **kun** reading: none

Create your **on-yomi** keyword and enter it in the table at the back of the book. After that, write your sentence to remember the **on-yomi** reading in the

box below.

--

LESS COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Less common **ON** reading: none

Less common **kun** reading: none

COMMON WORDS AND COMPOUNDS		
凶年	evil + year = <i>a bad year</i>	KYŌ·NEN キョウ・ネン
凶行	evil + go = <i>violence</i>	KYŌ·KŌ キョウ・コウ

SAMPLE SENTENCE

凶年 だ そう です。

KYŌ·NEN da sō desu. bad year seems

= *Apparently it's a bad year.*

WRITING PRACTICE					

KANJI 193

海 SEA

丶	丶	丶	丶	丶	丶	丶	丶	丶
丶	丶	丶	丶	丶	丶	丶	海	海
BUILDING THIS KANJI								
Splash 丶 + Every 毎(168) = 海								

MEANING

Sea.

REMEMBERING THIS KANJI

Q. Which **SEA** **splashes** **every** shoreline in the Caribbean?

- A. a) The **SEA** of Confusion?
b) The **SEA** of Tranquility?
c) The Caribbean **SEA**?



COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Common **ON** reading: **KAI** (カイ)

Common **kun** reading: **umi** (うみ)

Recall that the fifth example below was presented early in Chapter 2; we've

come a long way since then!

kun-yomi suggestion: “to me”

Create your **on-yomi** keyword and enter it in the table at the back of the book. After that, write your sentence to remember the **on-yomi** and **kun-yomi** readings in the box below.

--

LESS COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Less common **ON** reading: none

Less common **kun** reading: none

COMMON WORDS AND COMPOUNDS		
海	<i>sea</i>	umi うみ
海水	sea + water = <i>sea water</i>	KAI·SUI カイ・スイ
海図	sea + diagram = <i>nautical chart</i>	KAI·ZU カイ・ズ
雲海	cloud + sea = <i>sea of clouds</i>	UN·KAI ウン・カイ
海王星	sea + king + star = <i>Neptune (planet)</i>	KAI·Ō·SEI カイ・オウ・セイ
北海道	north + sea + road = <i>Hokkaido</i>	HOK·KAI·DŌ ホッ・カイ・ドウ

SAMPLE SENTENCE

夏休み に 北海道 へ 行きました。

natsu yasumi ni HOK·KAI·DŌ e i·kimashita.

summer vacation Hokkaido went
= *(We) went to Hokkaido for summer vacation.*

summer vacation Hokkaido went
= *(We) went to Hokkaido for summer vacation.*

[illegible][illegible]

KANJI 194

校 SCHOOL

一	十	才	木	木'	杢	杢	杢	杢
校								
BUILDING THIS KANJI								
Tree 木(13) + Mix 交(185) = 校								

MEANING

School. A secondary meaning related to “proofreading” shows up in only a few compounds.

REMEMBERING THIS KANJI

When **trees** attend **SCHOOL**, they are often required to **mix** with other species. This can be problematic; maple **trees** refuse to take exams with evergreens, for example, and thus drag down test scores for the **SCHOOL** as a whole. This, as we know, is a traditional source of tension; when it comes to **SCHOOL**, some argue, coniferous and deciduous **trees** simply cannot **mix**.



COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Common **ON** reading: **KŌ** (コウ)

Common **kun** reading: none

Note how “学” in the second example “doubles up” with 校, and how this remains constant in the other compounds in which this word occurs.

Create your **on-yomi** keyword and enter it in the table at the back of the book. After that, write your sentence to remember the **on-yomi** reading in the box below.

--

LESS COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Less common **ON** reading: none

Less common **kun** reading: none

COMMON WORDS AND COMPOUNDS		
校外	school + outside = <i>off-campus</i>	KŌ·GAI コウ・ガイ
学校	study + school = <i>school</i>	GAK·KŌ ガッ・コウ
小学校	small + study + school = <i>elementary school</i>	SHŌ·GAK·KŌ ショウ・ガッ・コウ
中学校	middle + study + school = <i>junior high school</i>	CHŪ·GAK·KŌ チュウ・ガッ・コウ
高校	tall + school = <i>high school</i>	KŌ·KŌ コウ・コウ
女学校	woman + study + school = <i>girls' school</i>	JO·GAK·KŌ ジョ・ガッ・コウ

SAMPLE SENTENCE

あの 女 の 子 は 高校 二年生 です。

ano onna no ko wa KŌ·KŌ NI·NEN·SEI desu.

that woman child high school second year student

= *That girl is a second-year high school student.*

WRITING PRACTICE					

KANJI 195

足 LEG

丶	凵	口	𠂇	𠂇	𠂇	足		
BUILDING THIS KANJI Mouth (vampire) 凵(8) + Good Figure Skater 𠂇 + Person 人(2) = 足								

MEANING

Confusingly for English speakers, this character can signify both “leg” and “foot”. A secondary meaning relates to the sense of “suffice”.

REMEMBERING THIS KANJI

Even a **good figure skater** can mess up on occasion, and the kanji here provides an example of this happening. The steps are easy to follow: 1. **Vampire** flies onto **good figure skater**; 2. Figure skater is distracted, lands awkwardly on the **person** skating with her (this takes place during a pairs competition); 3. Said **person** breaks **LEG**.



COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Common ON reading: SOKU (ソク)

Common **kun** reading: **ashi** (あし)

Note that “取” is voiced in the fourth example.

kun-yomi suggestion: “ash eating”

Create your **on-yomi** keyword and enter it in the table at the back of the book. After that, write your sentence to remember the **on-yomi** and **kun-yomi** readings in the box below.

--

LESS COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Less common **ON** reading: none

Less common **kun** reading: **ta** (た)

IRREGULAR READING		
裸足*	naked + leg = <i>barefoot</i>	hadashi はだし

COMMON WORDS AND COMPOUNDS		
足	<i>leg; foot</i>	ashi あし
足首	leg + neck = <i>ankle</i>	ashi·kubi あし・くび
足音	leg + sound = <i>sound of footsteps</i>	ashi·oto あし・おと
足取り	leg + take = <i>one's gait</i>	ashi do·ri あし ど·り
土足	earth + leg = <i>with shoes on</i>	DO·SOKU ド・ソク

足元 注意	leg + basis + pour + mind = “ <i>watch your step</i> ”	ashi·moto·CHŪ·I あし・もと・チュウ ・イ
-------	--	---

SAMPLE SENTENCE

足音 を 聞きました か。

ashi·oto o ki·kimashita ka.

sound of footsteps heard

= *Did you hear footsteps?*

WRITING PRACTICE					

COMPONENT 196

TRIPOD



KANJI 196

糸 THREAD

く	纟	纟	纟	糸	糸			
BUILDING THIS KANJI Frustration 纟 + Tripod 𠂇 = 糸								

MEANING

Thread. You will become very familiar with this character over time; it appears as a component in more than sixty other kanji.

REMEMBERING THIS KANJI

If you want to get a sense of **frustration**, try doing anything with a **tripod** made out of **THREAD**. The moment you use it with a camera, the **THREAD** collapses and ruins your shot. As a support for painting, though, it's even worse: the **tripod** falls over and leaves a bunch of **THREAD** stuck in your masterpiece.



COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Common **ON** reading: none

Common **kun** reading: **ito** (いと)

Note that “**口**” is voiced in the second example.

kun-yomi suggestion: “**eat only**”

Create your sentence to remember the **kun-yomi** reading in the box below.

LESS COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Less common **ON** reading: **SHI** (シ)

Less common **kun** reading: none

COMMON WORDS AND COMPOUNDS		
糸	<i>thread</i>	ito いと
糸口	thread + mouth = <i>beginning; clue</i>	ito·guchi いと・ぐち

SAMPLE SENTENCE

青い糸がありますか。

ao·i ito ga arimasu ka.

blue thread is

= Is there any blue thread?

WRITING PRACTICE

[illegible]

KANJI 197

同 SAME

丨	冂	冂	同	同	同			
BUILDING THIS KANJI Gorilla 冂 + One (hamburger patty) 一 (3) + Mouth (vampire) 口 (8) = 同								

MEANING

Same.

REMEMBERING THIS KANJI

As a vegetarian, a **gorilla's** diet is always the **SAME**: fruits, nuts and berries. A **vampire**, too, is only interested in having the **SAME** meal over and over: the blood of living creatures. It should come as no surprise, therefore, that a **gorilla** and **vampire** will react the **SAME** way if a **hamburger patty is placed between them** – neither will want it.



COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Common **ON** reading: **DŌ** (ドウ)

Common **kun** reading: **ona** (おな)

Remember that **ona** (おな) differs from **onna** (おんな), a reading for “女” in Entry 16.

kun-yomi suggestion: “o, nasty!”

Create your **on-yomi** keyword and enter it in the table at the back of the book. After that, write your sentence to remember the **on-yomi** and **kun-yomi** readings in the box below.

--

LESS COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Less common **ON** reading: none

Less common **kun** reading: none

COMMON WORDS AND COMPOUNDS		
同じ	<i>same</i>	ona·ji おな・じ
同意	same + mind = <i>agreement</i>	DŌ·I ドウ・イ
同一	same + one = <i>identical</i>	DŌ·ITSU ドウ・イツ
同時	same + time = <i>simultaneous</i>	DŌ·JI ドウ・ジ
同化	same + change = <i>assimilation</i>	DŌ·KA ドウ・カ
同行者	same + go + individual = <i>traveling companion</i>	DŌ·KŌ·SHA ドウ・コウ・シャ

SAMPLE SENTENCE

私 と 中村さん は 同時 に 来ました。

watashi to Naka·mura-san wa DŌ·JI ni ki·mashita.

I Nakamura-san simultaneous came

= *Nakamura-san and I arrived at the same time.*

WRITING PRACTICE					

KANJI 198

午 NOON

ノ	一	二	午					
BUILDING THIS KANJI								
Hammer 一 + Ten (scarecrow) 十(28) = 午								

MEANING

Noon.

REMEMBERING THIS KANJI

Everyone feels sorry for a **scarecrow** at **NOON**, as **NOON** is when the heat starts to pound on him like a **hammer**.



COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Common **ON** reading: **GO** (ゴ)

Common **kun** reading: none

Create your **on-yomi** keyword and enter it in the table at the back of the book. After that, write your sentence to remember the **on-yomi** reading in the box below.

LESS COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Less common **ON** reading: none

Less common **kun** reading: none

COMMON WORDS AND COMPOUNDS		
午前	noon + before = <i>A.M.; morning</i>	GO·ZEN ゴ・ゼン
午後	noon + after = <i>P.M.; afternoon</i>	GO·GO ゴ・ゴ
午前中	noon + before + middle = <i>all morning</i>	GO·ZEN·CHŪ ゴ・ゼン・チュウ

SAMPLE SENTENCE

午前 八時 に 高校 へ 行きます。

GO·ZEN HACHI·JI ni KŌ·KŌ e i·kimasu.

A.M. eight o'clock high school go

= *I go to high school at 8 A.M.*

WRITING PRACTICE					

KANJI 199

愛 LOVE

一	レ	心	心	心	心	心	心	心
心	心	心	心					
BUILDING THIS KANJI Stroller 車 + UFO 一 + Heart 心(25) + Running Chicken 久 = 愛								

MEANING

Love. After an entry for “evil”, space had to be made for this character!

REMEMBERING THIS KANJI

LOVE, as we know, is profound, and the components in this kanji all have a connection to its secrets. A **stroller** can be filled through LOVE, a **UFO** is as mysterious as LOVE, a **heart** is the symbol of LOVE, and a **running chicken**... well, a **running chicken** has clearly been set free by someone who **LOVES** chickens.



COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Common **ON** reading: **AI** (アイ)

Common **kun** reading: none

Create your **on-yomi** keyword and enter it in the table at the back of the book. After that, write your sentence to remember the **on-yomi** reading in the box below.

--

LESS COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Less common **ON** reading: none

Less common **kun** reading: none

The following is a very common irregular reading.

IRREGULAR READING		
可愛い*	possible + love = <i>cute</i>	KA·WAI·i カ・ワイ・い

COMMON WORDS AND COMPOUNDS		
愛好	love + like = <i>love; like</i>	AI·KŌ アイ・コウ
愛犬	love + dog = <i>pet dog</i>	AI·KEN アイ・ケン
愛犬家	love + dog + house = <i>dog lover</i>	AI·KEN·KA アイ・ケン・カ
愛鳥家	love + bird + house = <i>bird lover</i>	AI·CHŌ·KA アイ・チョウ・カ
愛国心	love + country + heart = <i>patriotism</i>	AI·KOKU·SHIN アイ・コク・シン

SAMPLE SENTENCE

本田さん は 愛鳥家 として 有名 です。

Hon·da-san wa AI·CHŌ·KA toshite YŪ·MEI desu.

Honda-san bird lover as famous

= *Honda-san is famous as a bird lover.*

WRITING PRACTICE					

KANJI 200

離 SEPARATE

丶	一	ナ	文	凶	囟	囟	离	离
离	离	离	离	离	离	离	离	离
BUILDING THIS KANJI Police 一 + Evil 凶(192) + Gorilla 𠤎 + Broken Crutch 𠤎 + Squirrels 隹 = 離								

MEANING

Separate/Leave. This is one the most complicated-looking of all the kanji, but as you are now familiar with each its components, even a ferocious character like this can be tackled with confidence.

REMEMBERING THIS KANJI

A warning: *never* try to **SEPARATE** the **squirrels**, as they will offer violent resistance should you try. The **police** once made an effort, of course, but the **squirrels** **SEPARATED** them from their weapons and committed an act of such unspeakable **evil** that it cannot be related here. The **police** then sent in a **gorilla** to do their dirty work, but as the **broken crutch** indicates, this maneuver failed miserably as well. In the end, everyone was forced to agree that it was best not to **SEPARATE** the **squirrels** at all.



COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Common **ON** reading: **RI** (リ)

Common **kun** reading: **hana** (はな)

Note how the reading of this character has become voiced in the third compound.

kun-yomi suggestions: “**Han** amulet”

Create your **on-yomi** keyword and enter it in the table at the back of the book. After that, write your sentence to remember the **on-yomi** and **kun-yomi** readings in the box below.

--

LESS COMMON PRONUNCIATIONS

Less common **ON** reading: none

Less common **kun** reading: none

COMMON WORDS AND COMPOUNDS		
離れる (intr)	<i>to separate; to leave</i>	hana·reru はな・れる
離す (tr)	<i>to separate (something)</i>	hana·su はな・す
離れ 離れ	separate + separate = <i>scattered; separated</i>	hana·re bana·re はな・れ ばな・れ
切り離す	cut + separate = <i>to cut off</i>	ki·ri hana·su き・り はな・す
分離	part + separate = <i>separation</i>	BUN·RI ブン・リ

離村

||separate + village
= *rural exodus*

||RI・SON
リ・ソン

SAMPLE SENTENCE

山 で その 親子 は 離れ離れ に なってしまいました。

yama de sono oya·ko wa hana·re bana·re ni natte shimaimashita.

mountain that parent and child separated ended up

= *That parent and child ended up getting separated on the mountain.*

WRITING PRACTICE

CHAPTER 10 REVIEW EXERCISES

A. Please match the following kanji to their meanings.

- | | |
|-------|-------------|
| 1. 雲 | a. Separate |
| 2. 午 | b. After |
| 3. 交 | c. Sea |
| 4. 後 | d. Same |
| 5. 海 | e. Mix |
| 6. 太 | f. Black |
| 7. 離 | g. Receive |
| 8. 受 | h. Cloud |
| 9. 黒 | i. Noon |
| 10. 同 | j. Fat |

B. Please match the following meanings to their kanji, and these to their **on** or **kun-yomi**.

- | | | |
|-----------|------|-------------------------|
| 1. Not | a. 林 | 1. SAI (サイ) |
| 2. School | b. 最 | 2. ashi (あし) |
| 3. Grove | c. 足 | 3. KŌ (コウ) |
| 4. Car | d. 不 | 4. mori (もり) |
| 5. Love | e. 凶 | 5. AI (アイ) |
| 6. Leg | f. 糸 | 6. hayashi (はやし) |
| 7. Forest | g. 車 | 7. KYŌ (キョウ) |
| 8. Evil | h. 愛 | 8. ito (いと) |

9. Most

i. 森

9. **FU** (フ)

10. Thread

j. 校

10. **kuruma** (くるま)

C. Please choose the best answer(s) to the following questions.

1. Which of the following readings apply to the kanji 離?

a. **YŪ** (ユウ)

b. **mori** (もり)

c. **RYŌ** (リョウ)

d. **hana** (はな)

e. **RI** (リ)

2. Which of the following readings apply to the kanji 太?

a. **futo** (ふと)

b. **DAI** (ダイ)

c. **inu** (いぬ)

d. **TA** (タ)

e. **ō** (おお)

3. I was going to win the marathon, but got a massive cramp in my ____.

a. 雲

b. 車

c. 森

d. 愛

e. 足

4. Which of the following readings apply to the kanji 海?

a. **mizu** (みず)

b. **umi** (うみ)

- c. **KAI** (カイ)
- d. **kawa** (かわ)
- e. **KŌ** (コウ)

5. Which of the following readings apply to the kanji 後?

- a. **ushi** (うし)
- b. **KŌ** (コウ)
- c. **SHŌ** (ショウ)
- d. **ato** (あと)
- e. **GO** (ゴ)

D. Please choose the best answer(s) to the following questions.

1. . Which is the correct reading of 交ぜる?

- a. **ora·zeru** (おら・ぜる)
- b. **ko·zeru** (こ・ぜる)
- c. **ma·zeru** (ま・ぜる)
- d. **a·zeru** (あ・ぜる)

2. Which is the correct reading of 同じ?

- a. **ona·ji** (おな・じ)
- b. **ara·ji** (あら・じ)
- c. **aka·ji** (あか・じ)
- d. **u·ji** (う・じ)

3. Which of the following kanji has the most number of strokes?

- a. 後
- b. 雲
- c. 最
- d. 愛

e. 黒

4. Which is the correct reading of 受ける?

- a. **a·keru** (あ・ける)
- b. **u·keru** (う・ける)
- c. **tata·keru** (たた・ける)
- d. **oda·keru** (おだ・ける)

5. Which is the correct reading of 黒い?

- a. **shiro·i** (しろ・い)
- b. **ao·i** (あお・い)
- c. **aka·i** (あか・い)
- d. **kuro·i** (くろ・い)

E. Please match the following compounds and words to their meanings and pronunciations.

1. 分離

a. Smallest

1. **DŌ·I**
(ドウ・イ)

2. 赤黒い

b. To undertake

2. **ashi·kubi**
(あし・くび)

3. 同意

c. Afternoon

3. **KAI·Ō·SEI**
(カイ・オウ・セイ)

4. 海王星

d. Unclear

4. **GO·GO**
(ゴ・ゴ)

5. 引き受 ける

e. Agreement

5. **KŌ·KŌ**
(コウ・コウ)

6. 最小

f. High school

6. **SAI·SHŌ**
(サイ・ショウ)

7. 足首

g. Neptune (planet)

7. **BUN·RI**

8. 不明

h. Dark red

(ブン・リ)

8. **hi·ki u·keru**

(ひ・き う・ける)

9. 午後

i. Separation

9. **FU·MEI**

(フ・メイ)

10. 高校

j. Ankle

10. **aka guro·i**

(あか ぐろ・い)

CUMULATIVE REVIEW EXERCISES FOR CHAPTERS 1 - 10

A. Please match the following kanji to their meanings.

- | | |
|-------|-------------|
| 1. 家 | a. Electric |
| 2. 干 | b. Country |
| 3. 先 | c. Mother |
| 4. 母 | d. Spirit |
| 5. 空 | e. Dry |
| 6. 国 | f. House |
| 7. 太 | g. Precede |
| 8. 有 | h. Fat |
| 9. 電 | i. Empty |
| 10. 気 | j. Have |

B. Which kanji does not belong in the group?

- | | | | | |
|---------|------|------|------|------|
| 1. a. 日 | b. 週 | c. 年 | d. 首 | e. 秒 |
| 2. a. 赤 | b. 外 | c. 青 | d. 白 | e. 黒 |
| 3. a. 春 | b. 秋 | c. 注 | d. 冬 | e. 夏 |
| 4. a. 市 | b. 里 | c. 高 | d. 町 | e. 村 |
| 5. a. 金 | b. 馬 | c. 牛 | d. 鳥 | e. 犬 |
| 6. a. 東 | b. 南 | c. 西 | d. 北 | e. 干 |
| 7. a. 舌 | b. 壳 | c. 目 | d. 足 | e. 耳 |

- | | | | | |
|----------|------|------|------|------|
| 8. a. 鳥 | b. 午 | c. 夕 | d. 朝 | e. 夜 |
| 9. a. 車 | b. 寺 | c. 門 | d. 花 | e. 道 |
| 10. a. 美 | b. 好 | c. 愛 | d. 天 | e. 凶 |

C. Identify the kanji having the most number of strokes.

- | | | | | |
|----------|------|------|------|------|
| 1. a. 出 | b. 主 | c. 右 | d. 央 | e. 百 |
| 2. a. 車 | b. 学 | c. 持 | d. 押 | e. 周 |
| 3. a. 道 | b. 週 | c. 桜 | d. 黒 | e. 校 |
| 4. a. 字 | b. 凶 | c. 来 | d. 英 | e. 糸 |
| 5. a. 秋 | b. 思 | c. 書 | d. 品 | e. 前 |
| 6. a. 雲 | b. 鳥 | c. 開 | d. 新 | e. 朝 |
| 7. a. 年 | b. 私 | c. 気 | d. 甲 | e. 母 |
| 8. a. 注 | b. 夜 | c. 音 | d. 訓 | e. 具 |
| 9. a. 掛 | b. 時 | c. 雪 | d. 海 | e. 最 |
| 10. a. 親 | b. 離 | c. 読 | d. 語 | e. 一 |

D. Please list the following kanji in the order indicated (alphabetical).

1. Dog / Fat / Heaven / Large / Lose

- a. 大
- b. 犬
- c. 太
- d. 天
- e. 失

2. Come / Half / Mix / Rice / Tree

- a. 来

- b. 米
- c. 木
- d. 半
- e. 交

3. Block / Dry / Noon / Not / Thousand

- a. 午
- b. 干
- c. 丁
- d. 不
- e. 千

4. Father / Heaven / Mix / School / Stand

- a. 天
- b. 交
- c. 父
- d. 校
- e. 立

5. Complete / Jewel / King / Pour / Primary

- a. 主
- b. 注
- c. 玉
- d. 王
- e. 全

6. Basis / Meet / Part / Public / Same

- a. 同
- b. 公
- c. 分

- d. 会
- e. 元

7. Precede / Read / Receive / Red / Sell

- a. 受
- b. 壳
- c. 先
- d. 読
- e. 赤

8. Mind / New / Parent / Sound / Stand

- a. 親
- b. 新
- c. 音
- d. 意
- e. 立

9. Character / City / Ease / House / Study

- a. 学
- b. 字
- c. 安
- d. 家
- e. 市

10. Buy / Neck / Road / Shellfish / Tool

- a. 具
- b. 道
- c. 首
- d. 買
- e. 貝

E. Please choose the best answer to the following questions.

1. I often see monks when I walk past that ____.

- a. 星
- b. 馬
- c. 足
- d. 電
- e. 寺

2. The samurai made a menacing gesture with his ____.

- a. 花
- b. 車
- c. 刀
- d. 川
- e. 牛

3. What is the worst thing to find waiting for you on your doorstep?

- a. 金
- b. 品
- c. 親
- d. 鳥
- e. 死

4. Romeo was troubled. How could he demonstrate his ____ for Juliet?

- a. 凶
- b. 太
- c. 具
- d. 愛
- e. 田

5. It's so quiet and peaceful in the middle of this ____!

- a. 森
- b. 犬
- c. 月
- d. 肉
- e. 火

F. Please choose the best answer(s) to the following questions.

1. As 小 is to 大, 少 is to ____.

- a. 多
- b. 人
- c. 名
- d. 外
- e. 主

2. As 讀 is to 書, 押 is to ____.

- a. 有
- b. 交
- c. 買
- d. 引
- e. 休

3. As 內 is to 外, 私 is to ____.

- a. 每
- b. 公
- c. 不
- d. 元
- e. 取

4. As 上 is to 下, 前 is to ____.

- a. 本
- b. 生
- c. 最
- d. 山
- e. 後

5. As 林 is to 森, 好 is to ____.

- a. 赤
- b. 愛
- c. 心
- d. 先
- e. 図

G. Please choose the best answer to the following questions.

1. Which is the correct reading of 行く?

- a. **a·ku** (あ・く)
- b. **i·ku** (い・く)
- c. **fu·ku** (ふ・く)
- d. **ta·ku** (た・く)

2. Which is the correct reading of 切る?

- a. **tabe·ru** (たべ・る)
- b. **ino·ru** (いの・る)
- c. **a·ru** (あ・る)
- d. **ki·ru** (き・る)

3. Which is the correct reading of 会う?

- a. **a·u** (あ・う)
- b. **o·u** (お・う)
- c. **muka·u** (むか・う)
- d. **i·u** (い・う)

4. Which is the correct reading of 近い?

- a. **chika·i** (ちか・い)
- b. **ao·i** (あお・い)
- c. **kata·i** (かた・い)
- d. **aka·i** (あか・い)

5. Which is the correct reading of 話す?

- a. **wata·su** (わた・す)
- b. **furu·su** (ふる・す)
- c. **hana·su** (はな・す)
- d. **ta·su** (た・す)

6. Which is the correct reading of 赤い?

- a. **furu·i** (ふる・い)
- b. **taka·i** (たか・い)
- c. **ō·i** (おお・い)
- d. **aka·i** (あか・い)

7. Which is the correct reading of 少し?

- a. **suko·shi** (すこ・し)
- b. **haya·shi** (はや・し)
- c. **ara·shi** (あら・し)
- d. **hana·shi** (はな・し)

8. Which is the correct reading of 古い?

- a. **kuro·i** (くろ・い)
- b. **shiro·i** (しろ・い)
- c. **furu·i** (ふる・い)
- d. **usu·i** (うす・い)

9. Which is the correct reading of 聞く?

- a. **hi·ku** (ひ・く)
- b. **ki·ku** (き・く)
- c. **a·ku** (あ・く)
- d. **ara·ku** (あら・く)

10. Which is the correct reading of 押す?

- a. **hana·su** (はな・す)
- b. **u·su** (う・す)
- c. **ama·su** (あま・す)
- d. **o·su** (お・す)

H. Please match the following compounds and words to their meanings and pronunciations.

- | | | |
|---------|----------------------|--------------------------------------|
| 1. 有名 | a. Exit | 1. TA·DOKU·KA
(タ・ドク・カ) |
| 2. 多読家 | b. Talkative | 2. NYŪ·KAI·KIN
(ニユウ・カイ・キン) |
| 3. 出口 | c. Famous | 3. BI·KA
(ビ・カ) |
| 4. 同行者 | d. The four seasons | 4. ta·chi i·ru
(た・ち い・る) |
| 5. 書き入れ | e. “Watch Your Step” | 5. ka·ki i·reru |

る		(か・き いれる)
6. 午前	f. Traveling companion	6. GAI·KŌ (ガイ・コウ)
7. 立ち入る	g. Patriotism	7. GO·ZEN (ゴ・ゼン)
8. 春夏秋冬	h. Well-read person	8. YŪ·MEI (ユウ・メイ)
9. 美化	i. Beautification	9. hana·shi zu·ki (はな・し ず・き)
10. 足元注意	j. Fireworks	10. hana·bi (はな・び)
11. 外交	k. Morning (a.m.)	11. de·guchi (で・ぐち)
12. 愛国心	l. Enrollment fee	12. SHUN·KA·SHŪ·TO (シュン・カ・シュウ・トウ)
13. 話し好き	m. To go into	13. AI·KOKU·SHIN (アイ・コク・シン)
14. 入会金	n. Foreign policy	14. DŌ·KŌ·SHA (ドウ・コウ・シャ)
15. 花火	o. To write in	15. ashi·moto·CHŪ·I (あし・もと・チュウ・イ)

ANSWER KEY FOR EXERCISES

CHAPTER 1

Section A

1. e
2. c
3. g
4. i
5. b
6. f
7. a
8. j
9. h
10. d

Section B

1. $g - 8$
2. $j - 5$
3. $a - 10$
4. $i - 7$
5. $b - 3$
6. $h - 9$
7. $c - 1$
8. $f - 2$
9. $d - 6$
10. $e - 4$

Section C

1. $b/c/d$
2. c
3. d/e

4. a/d
5. a/c/e

Section D

1. d
2. e
3. b
4. d
5. b

Section E

1. f - 4
2. j - 9
3. a - 6
4. e - 5
5. b - 10
6. i - 2
7. h - 1
8. d - 7
9. c - 3
10. g - 8

CHAPTER 2

Section A

1. c
2. j
3. f
4. h
5. e
6. a
7. i
8. g
9. d
10. b

Section B

1. $d - 10$
2. $f - 4$
3. $a - 2$
4. $j - 9$
5. $h - 1$
6. $b - 3$
7. $g - 8$
8. $e - 7$
9. $c - 6$
10. $i - 5$

Section C

1. $a/b/d$
2. $a/b/d/e$
3. b/d
4. d
5. $a/b/c/d/e$

Section D

1. b
2. c
3. a
4. d
5. c

Section E

1. $g - 1$
2. $j - 6$
3. $a - 10$
4. $f - 3$
5. $i - 7$
6. $c - 2$
7. $h - 9$
8. $d - 5$
9. $b - 8$
10. $e - 4$

CHAPTER

Section A

1. d
2. h
3. j
4. b
5. i
6. g
7. c
8. f
9. a
10. e

Section B

1. i – 10
2. f – 2
3. d – 3
4. c – 7
5. a – 1
6. g – 8
7. b – 9
8. j – 4
9. h – 5
10. e – 6

Section C

1. a/d
2. e
3. c/d
4. a/b/d
5. b/c/d

Section D

1. b
2. b
3. a
4. c

5. d

Section E

1. d – 6
2. b – 4
3. h – 2
4. j – 7
5. c – 9
6. f – 1
7. i – 5
8. g – 10
9. e – 3
10. a – 8

CHAPTER 4

Section A

1. c
2. j
3. f
4. h
5. b
6. g
7. d
8. i
9. a
10. e

Section B

1. f – 4
2. c – 9
3. i – 2
4. g – 8
5. a – 6
6. j – 3
7. e – 7
8. d – 1

9. $h - 5$
10. $b - 10$

Section C

1. a/b
2. b/c
3. $a/d/e$
4. d
5. b/e

Section D

1. d
2. b
3. c
4. d
5. a

Section E

1. $c - 9$
2. $h - 6$
3. $f - 8$
4. $a - 3$
5. $j - 1$
6. $e - 10$
7. $i - 4$
8. $d - 7$
9. $g - 2$
10. $b - 5$

CHAPTER 5

Section A

1. h
2. b
3. e
4. g
5. c

6. j
7. f
8. i
9. d
10. a

Section B

1. d – 10
2. e – 5
3. a – 1
4. j – 3
5. g – 8
6. i – 6
7. b – 4
8. f – 9
9. h – 2
10. c – 7

Section C

1. c/e
2. a/b/d
3. e
4. d
5. b/d/e

Section D

1. b
2. c
3. d
4. b
5. d

Section E

1. f – 4
2. d – 7
3. h – 3
4. a – 9
5. c – 6

6. j – 8
7. e – 10
8. g – 1
9. b – 5
10. i – 2

CUMULATIVE REVIEW FOR CHAPTERS 1 - 5

Section A

1. f
2. d
3. i
4. a
5. h
6. c
7. j
8. e
9. g
10. b

Section B

1. c (not a body part)
2. a (not a person)
3. b (not something found in nature)
4. e (not a plant or animal)
5. a (not a direction)
6. d (not a number)
7. b (not a number)
8. c (not of water)
9. a (not a verb of motion)
10. h (not one of the kanji for days of the week)

Section C

1. b
2. d
3. a
4. d
5. e

6. c
7. a
8. b
9. e
10. c

Section D

1. d/c/a/e/b
2. b/d/a/e/c
3. c/e/d/a/b
4. c/b/e/a/d
5. a/e/d/c/b
6. b/c/d/e/a
7. e/c/a/d/b
8. a/d/b/e/c
9. c/b/d/a/e
10. b/a/d/e/c

Section E

1. e
2. b
3. d
4. d
5. c

Section F

1. a/b/e
2. a/b/d/e/f/g
3. a/b/c
4. a/b/c/d/e/g
5. a/b/c/e

Section G

1. b
2. a
3. d
4. d
5. b

6. c
7. a
8. c
9. b
10. d

Section H

1. $k - 3$
2. $e - 10$
3. $h - 14$
4. $m - 6$
5. $b - 12$
6. $f - 4$
7. $c - 9$
8. $n - 15$
9. $l - 7$
10. $g - 13$
11. $i - 2$
12. $o - 8$
13. $a - 5$
14. $j - 11$
15. $d - 1$

CHAPTER 6

Section A

1. f
2. c
3. g
4. a
5. b
6. e
7. i
8. j
9. d
10. h

Section B

1. $i - 7$
2. $f - 2$
3. $h - 6$
4. $c - 10$
5. $a - 5$
6. $j - 3$
7. $d - 8$
8. $e - 9$
9. $g - 4$
10. $b - 1$

Section C

1. b/e
2. a/d
3. c
4. d/e
5. a/c

Section D

1. d
2. c
3. a
4. a
5. b/d

Section E

1. $g - 3$
 2. $d - 10$
 3. $h - 1$
 4. $j - 7$
 5. $i - 5$
 6. $b - 6$
 7. $a - 4$
 8. $e - 8$
 9. $f - 2$
 10. $c - 9$
-

CHAPTER 7

Section A

1. a
2. f
3. j
4. c
5. h
6. e
7. d
8. i
9. b
10. g

Section B

1. $c - 5$
2. $h - 4$
3. $f - 1$
4. $i - 10$
5. $a - 7$
6. $j - 3$
7. $b - 9$
8. $d - 2$
9. $g - 8$
10. $e - 6$

Section C

1. b/c
2. a/e
3. c/d
4. d
5. a/e

Section D

1. b
2. d
3. c

4. a
5. a

Section E

1. i – 4
2. g – 9
3. e – 1
4. a – 7
5. c – 5
6. b – 8
7. f – 3
8. d – 10
9. j – 2
10. h – 6

CHAPTER 8

Section A

1. b
2. d
3. a
4. i
5. g
6. j
7. f
8. c
9. e
10. h

Section B

1. j – 10
2. b – 1
3. f – 9
4. h – 4
5. c – 8
6. e – 7
7. a – 5

8. $i - 3$
9. $d - 6$
10. $g - 2$

Section C

1. b/e
2. d
3. a/c
4. d/e
5. $a/c/d$

Section D

1. d
2. b
3. a
4. a
5. c

Section E

1. $b - 5$
2. $h - 3$
3. $a - 9$
4. $f - 1$
5. $j - 6$
6. $d - 10$
7. $g - 8$
8. $i - 2$
9. $c - 4$
10. $e - 7$

CHAPTER 9

Section A

1. g
2. b
3. f
4. j

5. h
6. c
7. i
8. d
9. e
10. a

Section B

1. $a - 8$
2. $e - 4$
3. $i - 9$
4. $g - 2$
5. $c - 1$
6. $h - 10$
7. $f - 6$
8. $b - 5$
9. $j - 3$
10. $d - 7$

Section C

1. a/c
2. b/e
3. b/d
4. c
5. $a/b/c$

Section D

1. d
2. a
3. b
4. c
5. d

Section E

1. $j - 8$
2. $d - 3$
3. $g - 2$
4. $c - 10$

5. $a - 5$
6. $i - 9$
7. $h - 4$
8. $e - 6$
9. $f - 1$
10. $b - 7$

CHAPTER 10

Section A

1. h
2. i
3. e
4. b
5. c
6. j
7. a
8. g
9. f
10. d

Section B

1. $d - 9$
2. $j - 3$
3. $a - 6$
4. $g - 10$
5. $h - 5$
6. $c - 2$
7. $i - 4$
8. $e - 7$
9. $b - 1$
10. $f - 8$

Section C

1. d/e
2. a/d
3. e

4. b/c
5. a/b/d/e

Section D

1. c
2. a
3. d
4. b
5. d

Section E

1. i – 7
2. h – 10
3. e – 1
4. g – 3
5. b – 8
6. a – 6
7. j – 2
8. d – 9
9. c – 4
10. f – 5

CUMULATIVE REVIEW FOR CHAPTERS 1 - 10

Section A

1. f
2. e
3. g
4. c
5. i
6. b
7. h
8. j
9. a
10. d

Section B

1. d (not a time measurement)

2. b (not a color)
3. c (not a season)
4. c (not a population center)
5. a (not an animal)
6. e (not a direction)
7. b (not a body part)
8. a (not a time of the day)
9. d (not a man-made object)
10. e (not a positive thing)

Section C

1. e
2. c
3. a
4. d
5. c
6. d
7. b
8. d
9. e
10. b

Section D

1. b/c/d/a/e
2. a/d/e/b/c
3. c/b/a/d/e
4. c/a/b/d/e
5. e/c/d/b/a
6. e/d/c/b/a
7. c/d/a/e/b
8. d/b/a/c/e
9. b/e/c/d/a
10. d/c/b/e/a

Section E

1. e
2. c

- 3. e
- 4. d
- 5. a

Section F

- 1. a
- 2. d
- 3. b
- 4. e
- 5. b

Section G

- 1. b
- 2. d
- 3. a
- 4. a
- 5. c
- 6. d
- 7. a
- 8. c
- 9. b
- 10. d

Section H

- 1. c – 8
- 2. h – 1
- 3. a – 11
- 4. f – 14
- 5. o – 5
- 6. k – 7
- 7. m – 4
- 8. d – 12
- 9. i – 3
- 10. e – 15
- 11. n – 6
- 12. g – 13
- 13. b – 9

14. l – 2
15. j – 10

INDEX 1: STROKE COUNT

1 Stroke

一	3
---	---

2 Strokes

人	2
二	4
八	19
十	28
九	39
七	44
力	63
入	94
刀	117
又	159
丁	165

3 Strokes

山	1
三	5

口	8
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大	17
小	20
上	30
下	31
工	47
子	56
千	65
川	70
干	81
士	84
土	87
万	89
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夕	108
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4 Strokes

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月	11
木	13
五	14
中	18
六	22

王	23
心	25
内	34
止	43
少	45
円	52
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5 Strokes

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---	---

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---	----

目	15
---	----

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---	----

右	35
---	----

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---	----

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7 Strokes

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見	42
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男	74
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壳	92
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町	170
村	175
里	180
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足	195
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8 Strokes

明	12
---	----

国	26
---	----

京	41
---	----

步	55
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東	76
---	----

金	82
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注	178
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9 Strokes

春	40
南	46
首	54
思	77
美	101
星	114
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持	135
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10 Strokes

高	49
夏	64
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島	102
書	136
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11 Strokes

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雪	95
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12 Strokes

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朝	85
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13 Strokes

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Block	丁	165
Blue	青	86
Body	体	71
Bow	弓	143
Bright	明	12
Buy	買	50
Capital	京	41
Car	車	190

Center	央	140
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Cloud	雲	183
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Dry	干	81
Ear	耳	78
Early	早	29
Earth	土	87
Ease		62

	安	
East	東	76
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Electric	電	91
Empty	空	169
English	英	152
Enter	入	94
Evening	夕	108
Every	每	168
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Five	五	14
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Grove	林	181
Half	半	38
Hamlet	里	180
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Hear	聞	139
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Heaven	天	123
Hold	持	135
Horse	馬	144
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Hundred	百	51
Individual	者	93
Inside	内	34
Instruction	訓	153
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King	王	23
Large	大	17
Left	左	48
Leg	足	195
Life	生	99
Like	好	57
Lose	失	142
Love	愛	199
Lower	下	31
Main	本	68
Man	男	74
Many	多	134
Meat	肉	37
Meet	会	138
Middle	中	18
Mind	意	158
Mix	交	185
Moon	月	11
Morning	朝	85
Most	最	188
Mother	母	130

Mountain	山	1
Mouth	口	8
Name	名	129
Near	近	141
Neck	首	54
New	新	127
Night	夜	132
Nine	九	39
Noon	午	198
North	北	72
Not	不	186
Old	古	58
One	一	3
Open	開	106
Outside	外	109
Parent	親	113
Part	分	124
Person	人	2
Pour	注	178
Precede	先	105
Primary	主	164
Private	私	131

Public	公	161
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Rain	雨	90
Read	読	121
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Red	赤	160
Rest	休	66
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Rice Field	田	73
Right	右	35
River	川	70
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Rotate	回	9

Same	同	197
Say	言	80
School	校	194
Sea	海	193
Second	秒	147
See	見	42
Self	自	33
Sell	売	92
Separate		200

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Six	六	22
Small	小	20
Snow	雪	95
Sound	音	137
South	南	46
Speak	話	151
Spirit	氣	149
Spring	春	40
Stand	立	112
Star	星	114
Stop	止	43
Strength	力	63
Study	学	157
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Sun	日	6
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ON-YOMI KEYWORD TABLE

ON-YOMI		KEYWORD(s)
AI	アイ	
AN	アン	
BA	バ	
BAI	バイ	
BAN	バン	
BEI	ベイ	
BI	ビ	
BO	ボ	
BOKU	ボク	
BU	ブ	
BUN	ブン	
BUTSU	ブツ	
BYAKU	ビャク	
BYŌ	ビョウ	
CHŌ	チョウ	
CHŪ	チュウ	
DAI	ダイ	
DAN	ダン	

DEN	デン	
DO	ド	
DŌ	ドウ	
DOKU	ドク	
E	エ	
EI	エイ	
EN	エン	
FU	フ	
FUN	フン	
GAI	ガイ	
GAKU	ガク	
GAN	ガン	
GATSU	ガツ	
GE	ゲ	
GEN	ゲン	
GETSU	ゲツ	
GO	ゴ	
GON	ゴン	
GU	グ	
GYŌ	ギョウ	
GYOKU	ギョク	
GYŪ	ギュウ	
HACHI	ハチ	

HAKU	ハク	
HAN	ハン	
HIN	ヒン	
HO	ホ	
HOKU	ホク	
HON	ホン	
HYAKU	ヒャク	
I	イ	
ICHI	イチ	
IN	イン	
ITSU	イツ	
JI	ジ	
JIN	ジン	
JITSU	ジツ	
JO	ジョ	
JŌ	ジョウ	
JU	ジュ	
JŪ	ジュウ	
KA	カ	
KAI	カイ	
KAN	カン	
KE	ケ	
KEI	ケイ	

KEN	ケン	
KI	キ	
KIN	キン	
KO	コ	
KŌ	コウ	
KOKU	コク	
KON	コン	
KU	ク	
KŪ	クウ	
KUN	クン	
KYŌ	キョウ	
KYŪ	キュウ	
MAI	マイ	
MAN	マン	
MEI	メイ	
MIN	ミン	
MOKU	モク	
MON	モン	
MOTSU	モツ	
MYŌ	ミョウ	
NAI	ナイ	
NAN	ナン	
NEN		

	ネン	
NI	ニ	
NICHI	ニチ	
NIKU	ニク	
NIN	ニン	
NYO	ニヨ	
NYŌ	ニヨウ	
NYŪ	ニユウ	
Ō	オウ	
ON	オン	
RAI	ライ	
RI	リ	
RIKI	リキ	
RIKU	リク	
RIN	リン	
RITSU	リツ	
ROKU	ロク	
RYOKU	リョク	
RYŪ	リュウ	
SA	サ	
SAI	サイ	
SAN	サン	
SATSU	サツ	

SEI	セイ	
SEKI	セキ	
SEN	セン	
SETSU	セツ	
SHA	シャ	
SHAKU	シャク	
SHI	シ	
SHICHI	シチ	
SHIN	シン	
SHITSU	シツ	
SHO	ショ	
SHŌ	ショウ	
SHU	シュ	
SHŪ	シュウ	
SHUN	シュン	
SHUTSU	シュツ	
SŌ	ソウ	
SOKU	ソク	
SON	ソン	
SU	ス	
SUI	スイ	
SUN	スン	
TA	タ	

TAI	タイ	
TEI	テイ	
TEN	テン	
TO	ト	
TŌ	トウ	
TOKU	トク	
TON	トン	
U	ウ	
UN	ウン	
WA	ワ	
YA	ヤ	
YŌ	ヨウ	
YŪ	ユウ	
ZEN	ゼン	
ZETSU	ゼツ	
ZU	ズ	